# THE MESSENGER.

"AS THE TRUTH IS IN JESUS."

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Dr A II Strickle

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Poetry.

# HONORED BETHLEHEM.

" O sola magnarum urbium." Bethlehem, of noblest cities None can once with thee compare; Thou alone the Lord from heaven Didst for us Incarnate bear.

Fairer than the sun at morning Was the star that told His birth To the lands their God announcing, Hid beneath a form of earth.

By its lambent beauty guided, See, the Eastern kings appear; See them bend, their gifts to offer Gifts of incense, gold, and myrrh

Offerings of mystic meaning: Incense doth the God disclose; Gold a royal child proclaimeth; Myrrh a future tomb foreshows

Holy Jesus, in Thy brightness To the Gentile world displayed With the Father and the Spirit, [Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 4th Century.]

Communications.

For The Messenger. CHRIST SUFFERED.

By D. P. Lefever, A. M.

Mingled sorrow and joy meet in the hearts of earnest Christians while they meditate upon the import of the Advent season. That Jesus, the sinless Son of God, should come from heaven, having emptied Himself of His glory, to endure inconceivable anguish for the sin of the world, is a deeply saddening thought; but that He, by His humiliation and suffering, has exalted us to glory at His, and our Father's right hand in heaven is a soul-gladdening reflec-

Christ suffered. What did He suffer? The wrath of God against the sins of all mankind. How did He suffer? In body and soul. When did He suffer? All the and soul, from everlasting damnation. (Heid. Cat. Ans. to 37th Quest.)

We believe (and rejoice to confess our faith,) that Jesus Christ accomplished, by His suffering, all that the divine plan of human redemption, which He came to execute, comprised. Our meditations lead us to look upon mankind as an enormous defaulter, and upon Christ as the assignee who is to settle up the defaulter's estate as best He can. The settlement is made, but how? In one of two ways the settlement must have been effected. Christ either al Saviour, we can enjoy the Advent seapaid a larger or a smaller amount of mankind's indebtedness to God, the just creditor, which amount God accepted as a satto God, and thus have made full sat isfaction to God for the sins of all man-

There is no doubt that Christ suffered for the sin of the world, and by suffering made satisfaction for sin, but in my meditations my soul wonders whether God, the Father Almighty, did only accept the sufferings of His Son Jesus Christ as full satisfaction for some sin, or did Christ suffer the wrath of God against the sins of all mankind to its full extent, and thus, in very deed, make full satisfaction for the sins of all mankind?

God's will is law supreme. He is not or beyond Himself. If God chooses to accept the sufferings of one individual, i. e., of Christ, as full satisfaction for the sufferings due the whole human race on account vidences.

of sin, He can certainly do so, and who is it that can say to Him, "What doest Thou?" Moreover, since God has revealed to me by His word and Spirit, that Christ has fully satisfied for my sins, and that I can have the full benefit of that satisfaction by accepting Christ in true faith, my soul is willing to take God at His word, dence, as having been apparently influand lean upon Christ's bosom while it enjoys the feast of this love; and it becomes a question of minor importance how that tion at issue and to limit both the discussatisifaction was made, since God says it sion and the conclusion to that issue alone. has been made But as the "grace of Otherwise, in surrer lering some mere outjoy and gladness, I seem to feel that the wrath of God struck Jesus as hard a blow as it would have struck me in hell, if my divinest instincts. Lord had not received the stroke in my stead. If that is true in one case, it is true in every case, and the sufferings of Christ must have been equal to the sufferings which God in His just wrath against the sins of all mankind, would have inflicted upon mankind if Christ had not suffered Any instinct of the human heart so uniupon mankind if Christ had not suffered for them.

deemer, suffer as much in thirty-three years as all mankind, dead, living, and yet unborn, would have had to suffer under the wrath of God against sin, if no one had been found worthy to become their Sa-

Jesus Christ is God; God is perfect in every respect. Such is the difference between God and man, that we cannot institute a comparison between them. Our power to act and be acted upon, to do and endure or suffer, is less than nothing when placed beside God's power. Glorious as men created in the image of God are, they have no glory by reason of the most ex cellent glory of God. God is illimitable and almighty, and we are taught that we must seek for a mediator and deliverer who is both man and God, and that our Lord as it is in Jesus, and as it is revealed in the Spirit Infinite. the gospel.

Seeing, then, that our Lord Jesus Christ dent that He can do and endure all that God can do and endure, and all that man can do and endure. We are taught, further, that the human nature of Christ, strengthened by the power of His Godhead, was able to sustain the burden of God's wrath. Heid. Cat. Quest. 17.

pass through all the normal stages of human existence, and then passed through time He lived on the earth. Why did the abnormal one of death; this required could, during those years, or during any ministry, to say the least, have done more is fitting, obligatory, and efficacious. than all men could do in time and eternity. So, also, Christ being God, was able to suffer more by the power of His Godhead, during the little time that He lived on earth, or during a very small part of that time, than all mankind could possibly suffer in time and in eternity.

If we are joined to Christ who suffered nence the Prayer of Faith. for us, by true faith in Him as our personson to the glory of God, as well as to our own present and eternal advantage. Whatever difference of opinion may look back with thankwith joy to the second coming: while we for His appearing, and thus hasten on the illustrious, long-expected day. Veni, Domine Jesu!

Beware of a religion of mere sentiment which gazes, and sighs, and wishes, but makes no sacrifice, which hides the cross with flowers, and wears it over, but not within, the heart. Beware of a religion which costs you nothing, never rises an hour earlier, never denies itself a pleasure. bound by any law or authority outside of never gives that which it will miss, for the sake of Christ and the soul.

Quarrel not with God's unfinished pro-

Selections.

THE PRAYER OF FAITH.

By Prof. R. S. Storrs.

In the discussion of any special provienced, or not, by hann prayer, it is important carefully to note the exact quessame surrender some very citadel of our

the issue deepest and broadest of all-viz., the value and necessity of prayer itself—is legitimate discussion of any special prov-

versal and irrepressible as is the prayer in-Could one person, could Jesus our Re- stinct not only needs no such superhuman attestation to commend it to human reverbeen materially strengthened by it, however striking the answer might seem. Whoever does not instantly recognize the victorious validity any such deep and universal instinct as against all denial or doubt, fails to recognize one of the very

> finally, that this inn r citadel of our faith is not even assailed a any special manner that of its direct influence upon the divine

In the face of this imperative and invincible instinct of the universal human heart, is God and man in one person, it is evi- all doubt, all denial, all demand for spe cial attestations are wholly impertinent. The man who cannot plant the feet of his victorious faith upon such a rock of universal consciousness and stand firmly upon it, against whatever swell or surge skepticism may rise or rage around him, but faintly realizes his possible privilege. Christ lived on earth long enough to To doubt or deny the propriety or the sweet spirit pervades the entire Scripture. power of the prayer instinct is the same in folly-as to deny the existence and beneficent intent of the maternal instinct. A one year, month, day or hour of His active this deepest and most sacred truth. Prayer

> founded citadel of our faith human theorists have sometimes built up their own more than Moslem importunity, they besiege the divine throne for some specific blessing, in what they term by pre-emi-

The doctrine of these enthusiasts would finite beings, by the ardor and assurance of their prayers, to constrain the veracity of the infinite one to grant them any specific then, not in the prayer of Zechariah, unisfactory settlement of His claim against exist with reference to the exact amount of blessing upon which they may have fixed willing to take denial and finally answered the whole amount of mankind's indebted respecting the efficacy of those sufferings; quisite faith. This doctrine they base rather in the Garden prayer of the Divine mainly upon a very fulness to His first advent, and forward sages; as, e. g., the declaration of the Sa- submission to His Father's will. And so viour, "Whatsoever ye shall ask the Fathdo the best we can to prepare the world er in my name, He shall do it for you," and the words of James: "The prayer of faith shall save the sick." The word prayer, that along with every specific pe-"faith," as here used, they make the near synonym of "sanctified assurance," and they magnify the "prayer of faith" thus interpreted as the peculiar privilege and power of the sons of God.

It is such mere outposts of the legitimate prayer doctrine as this, erected and garrisoned by human defenders only, whose unconditional surrender seems often necessitated by the course of God's providence. this. For, if there ever was a case in which | - Independent.

it would seem certain that this peculiar prayer of faith must have been offered again and again, this, surely, was such a case, and yet the specific blessing asked for was not granted. It would not be easy to imagine a divine denial of delusive and dangerous error more emphatic and explicit than seemed thus to be given.

We can, indeed, though with some difficulty, imagine the advocates of the doctrine as evading this conclusion by the claim that not in one single instance in all those weary weeks was the prayer of faith, God which bringeth salvation" fills me with post of theory, if we should be compelled as thus defined, truly offered up. If this so to do, we might seem to include in the were, indeed, so; if among the millions of prayers which for so many weeks ascended day and night from the burdened hearts It should be noted, then, first of all, that of Christendom for the life of our President, under circumstances, too, adapted to impress the human mind as hardly ever one which is hardly at all involved in the before, with the assured conviction of the desirableness of the blessing asked, both for the divine glory and for human good; if, under all this most exceptional accumulation of favoring impulse, not one prayer of a sufficiently assured faith went up to God from a single human heart, might we ence, but could hardly be said to have not well conclude that a style of prayer so exceptional and rare as this would be thus proved can claim no important place among available agencies. surely, never have greater assurance that in life. the very Spirit of God would help human infirmity to the utterance of all acceptable axioms of divine science within and for man.

It should be settled, then, first and and yet the specific blessing asked for was not to be granted.

How, then, shall we reconcile the divine choose to rest their everal pleas, whether is sufficient to reply that we need not feel hearer or that of its and in the serve which has thus been forced upon human suppliant, the one absolutely and them by a few disciples. For, first, no im-Quests. 15 and 18. And we claim, of should be, must be, and shall be everywhere upon a few isolated passages, of whose true course, that the catechism teaches the truth and forever offered up by the spirit finite to meaning and use, whether figurative, illustrative, or in any other way unliteral, we can never be absolutely certain. Especially is this true when, secondly, as in the present case, the doctrine, thus narrowly based, is wholly inharmonious with other truth pervading every page of the sacred record. It would be hard to imagine prayers more dissimilar in spirit than are these so-called prayers of assurance, with their really arrogant assumptions, from those of true Christian submission, whose

But for a full and final reconciliation of any apparent conflict here between God's Word and His providence we need to note He suffer? That He might redeem us body about thirty-three years, He, being God, thousand divine denials of specific prayers more carefully the radical mistake of us-But around this central and divinely- fatal fallacy of the doctrine we controvert really lies. It is not faith in one's self, even as having penetrated the councils of Inspecial prayer minarets, from which, with finate Wisdom and then taken hold of the right arm of Infinite Power, which vitalizes the true prayer of faith. It is rather that faith in God, the very essence of which is a reverential acknowledgment of our own ignorance and a loving, submisseem to be that it is possible for merely sive waiting upon Him to see what His wisdom will be pleased to grant us.

The divine model of this prayer is found, iew Scripture pas- Sufferer, breathing only the most perfect profound will be this same spirit in every human heart, which is, indeed, helped by the Holy Spirit to the offering of this tition presented at any time by such a heart, pervading it as an atmosphere and winging it upward to the divine heart, will be the same even more ardent accompanying prayer : " Nevertheless, not as I will but as Thou wilt."

This prayer alone it is which can never fail of an answer, in the exactest sense of the word, and whose affirmative answer by Infinite Wisdom and Love may well recon-The death of President Garfield, in direct cile even the most earnest suppliant to nor by magnifying the doubtful questions denial of millions of human prayers, will whatever denial of specific petition that occur to every one as an illustration of same Wisdom and Love may see necessary.

ERRORS OF THE COLLEGES.

Dr Howard Crosby at a late meeting of. the Phillidelphia Beta Kappa Alumni, in New York City, delivered an address on the above subject and critised the attention paid to out-door sports. A contemperary

"The speaker said that boys of different nationalities could not be treated alike in educational training. There was no use in-trying to educate the American youth with German methods. The German course was very good for German youth, who could spend 15 years in school if need be. The American boy, however, was too nervous to be put to hard study at the age of 10, and at 20 he must be fighting in the field of labor. It was necessary, the speaker maintained, to condense as much real necessary knowledge as possible within the essentially brief period allotted to the American student. Dr. Crosby did not believe in sacrificing any branch of a practical English education to attempts to teach the classics or ornamental branches. He also objected to the custom in American Colleges of permitting the students to select their own studies. A young American boy of 18 does not know enough to select the studies that will best fit him for the real contest

In concluding his remarks the Doctor said: "The only other mistake common to our colleges to which I will now refer is the fostering of boat clubs and ball clubs. That young men should, in time of relaxation, go out on the green and have a good by any special presidence of God; and that, upon whatever various grounds different defenders of the prayer idea may have already quoted? To this question it commendable, but that they should form clubs for training and spend months in constrained to reconcile them at all in the the process and have grand public contests before the thousands all over the country Jesus Christ is such a person. Heid. Cat. immutably certain truth is that prayer portant doctrine can be safely founded their betting and drinking, to the grand show, in all of which study is neglected and must be neglected, is an abomination of the first order. It is a shame that college Presidents are actually promoting this demoralizing system. It would seem as if these worthies thought that colleges were instituted to collect a crowd of young bloods together, that they might have 'a high time.' No wonder that so many young men cannot go to college, because all this high living is so costly. If they refuse to pay the class taxes for all sorts of fooling, they are shoved aside as mean fellows, and this ostracism very few can bear. It costs a student at Yale or Harvard from \$1,200 to \$2,000 a year, if he is going to be in full rapport with his class. It becomes college Trustees to see that these expencan have no legitimate force to invalidate ing this noblest word of Christian experisive habits, so inimical to all true study, ence, Faith, as the mere synonym of per are prohibited, and that Professors and sonal assurance. It is just here that the sudents give heed to the important work for which the college was created. I believe all of these errors in our college management arise from a servile aping of foreign colleges and universities, in which imitation we go (as all imitations are apt to do) far beyond our patterns, and utterly forget that our colleges are neither gymnasia on the one hand nor universities on the other, but schools sui generis, to be adapted to the peculiar conditions of our own country and the state of society here. What we want is a quadiennium of careful mental training in all the faculties of mind coupled with an introduction into mankind, or else Christ must have paid Christ's sufferings, there can be no doubt their own short-sighted desire with the re- affirmatively to his own great loss; but the principles and relations of the various departments of knowledge, all of which is studies diligently pursued without distraction from any external source the student becoming so far master of the subjects studied that he can clearly state what he knows. In order to get back to this course of duty we must avoid following the guidance of two very worthless guides-the callow youth who are to be instructed, and the shallow newspapers who don't know the differencee between a college a and circus."

> We shall not establish ourselves in the truth by hovering continually about the suggested by every practical system of faith when applied to extreme cases .- G. Fred-

# Bamily Reading.

# EPIPHANY HYMN.

Jesus! glorious wonder-star Who from Jacob's race dost shine!
Gladly on Thy festal-day
Make I all my service Thine;
Graciously, I pray, receive What I feebly can conceive.

First receive the Gold of Faith, Which indeed I have from Thee, And therewith am full-endowed— Dearest of all gifts to me; Let it also tried and pure In the furnace-fire endure.

Take the Incense-breath of prayer, Gracious let it Thee content, Heart and lips shall always be Open on Thy praises bent; When I pray, O listen then, Answer with Thy Yea! Amen!

Take repentance' bitter myrrh! Ah! how much my sins oppress! Yet so pure and true Thou art, Grace I find and tenderness : And can now rejoicing sing, Jesus takes my offering.

Translated from the German.

# THE MEETING OF THE MAGI.

The Jebel es Zubleh is a mountain fifty The Jebel es Zubleh is a mountain fifty miles and more in length, and so narrow that its tracery on the map gives it a likeness to a caterpillar crawling from the south to the north. Standing on its redand-white cliffs, and looking off under the path of the rising sun, one sees only the Desert of Arabia, where the east winds, so hateful to the vine-growers of Jericho, have kept their playgrounds since the beginning. Its feet are well covered by sands tossed from the Euphrates, there to lie: for the mountain is a wall to the lie; for the mountain is a wall to the pasture-lands of Moab and Ammon on the -lands which else had been of the

sert a part.

The Arab has impressed his language upon everything south and east of Judea; so, in his tongue, the old Jebel is the parent of numberless wadies which, intersecting the Roman road—now a dim suggestion of what once it was, a dusty path for Syrian pilgrims to and from Mecca for Syrian pilgrims to and from Mecca—run their furrows, deepening as they go, to pass the torrents of the rainy season into the Jordan, or their last receptacle, the Dead Sea. Out of one of these wadies—or, more particularly, out of that one which rises at the extreme end of the Jebel, and, extending east of north, becomes at length the bed of the Jabbok River—a traveler passed, going to the table lands of the Jabbok. To this present the attention traveler passed, going to the table lands of the desert. To this person the attention of the reader is first besought.

of the reader is first besought.

Judged by his appearance, he was quite forty-five years old. His beard, once of the deepest black, flowing broadly over his breast, was streaked with white. His face was brown as a parched coffee-berry, and so hidden by a red kufiyeh (as the kerchief of the head is at this day called by the children of the desert) as to be but in part visible. Now and then he raised his eyes, and they were large and dark. He was clad in the flowing garments so universal in the East; but their style may not be described more particularly, for he sat under a miniature tent, and rode a great white dromedary.

great white dromedary.

It may be doubted if the people of the West ever overcome the impression made upon them by the first view of a camel equipped and loaded for the desert. Customark of the company of equipped and loaded for the desertion, so fatal to other novelties, affects this feeling but little. At the end of long after years of journeys with caravans, after years of residence with the Bedawin, the Westernborn, wherever they may be, will stop and wait the passing of the stately brute. The charm is not in the figure, which not even love can make beautiful; nor in the movement, the noiseless stepping, or the broad careen. As is the kindness of the sea to a ship, so is that of the desert to its creature. It clothes him with all its mysteries; in such manner, too, that while we are Iooking at him we are thinking of them: therein is the wonder. The animal which now came out of the wady might well have claimed the customary homers. Its color came out of the way in the customary homage. Its color and height; its breadth of foot; its bulk of body, not fat, but overlaid with muscle; its long, slender neck, of swan-like curvature: the head, wide between the eyes, and tapering to a muzzle which a lady's brace-let might have almost clasped; its motion, step long and elastic, tread sure and soundless—all certified its Syrian blood, old as the days of Cyrus, and absolutely old as the customate old as the curcumstance significant of the number to particular the customates old and table—a circumstance significant of the number to the action to the day of the document of the ocustomates of the customates all circumstance significant of the number of persons who were to particular the customates all circumstance significant of the number of persons who were to particular the customates as the curvature of the curcumstance significant of the outer of the action to cover the k came out of the wady might well have claimed the customary homage. Its color and height; its breadth of foot; its bulk of body, not fat, but overlaid with muscle; its long, slender neck, of swan-like curvature: the head, wide between the eyes, and tapering to a muzzle which a lady's brace-lat might have almost despend the rection. priceless. There was the usual bridle, covering the forehead with scarlet fringe, and garnishing the throat with pendent brazen chains, each ending with a tinkling silver bell; but to the bridle there was neither rein for the rider nor strap for a driver. The furniture perched on the back was an invention which with any other people than of the East would have made the inventor renowned. It consisted of two wooden boxes, scarce four feet in of two wooden boxes, scarce four feet in length, balanced so that one hung at each side; the inner space, softly lined and carpeted, was arranged to allow the master to sit or lie half-reclined; over it all was stretched a green awning. Broad back and breast straps, and girths, secured with countless knots and ties, held the device in place. In such papers the investment lace. In such manner the ingenious of Cush had contrived to make comfortable the sunburnt ways of the wilderness, along which lay their duty as often

a perfume like absinthe sweetened all the air. Lark and chat and rock swallow air. Lark and chat and rock swallow leaped to wing, and white partridges ran whistling and clucking out of the way. More rarely a fox or a hyena quickened his gallop, to study the intruders at a safe distance. Off to the right rose the hills of the Jebel, the pearl gray veil resting upon them changing momentarily into a purple which the sun would make matchless a little later. Over their highest peaks a vulture sailed on broad wings into widening circles. But of all these things the tenant of the green tent saw nothing, or, at least, of the green tent saw nothing, or, at least, made no sign of recognition. His eyes were fixed and dreamy. The going of the man, like that of the animal, was as one

being led. For two For two hours the dromedary swung forward, keeping the trot steadily and the line due east. In that time the traveler never changed his position, nor looked to the right or left. On the desert, distance never changed his position, nor looked to the right or left. On the desert, distance is not measured by miles or leagues, but by the saat, or hour, and the manzil, or halt; three and a half leagues fill the former, fifteen or twenty-five the latter; but they are the rates for the common camel. A carrier of the genuine Syrian stock can make three leagues easily. At stock can make three leagues easily. At full speed he overtakes the ordinary winds. As one of the results of the rapid advance, As one of the results of the rapid advance, the face of the landscape underwent a change. The Jebel stretched along the western horizon, like a pale-blue ribbon. A tell, or hummock of clay and cemented A tell, or hummock of clay and cemented sand, arose here and there. Now and then basaltic stones lifted their round crowns, outposts of the mountain against the forces of the plain; all else, however, was sand; sometimes smooth as the beaten beach, then heaped in rolling ridges; here chopped waves, there long swells. So, too, the condition of the atmosphere changed. The sun, high risen, had drank his fill of dew and mist, and warmed the breeze that kissed the wanderer under the awning; kissed the wanderer under the awning; far and near he was tinting the earth with faint milk-whiteness, and shimmering all

the sky.
Two hours more passed without rest or deviation from the course. Vegetation entirely ceased. The sand, so crusted on the surface that it broke into rattling The Jebel was out of view, and there was no landmark visible. The shadow that before followed had now shifted to the north, and was keeping even race with the objects which cast it; and as there was no sign of halting, the conduct of the traveler

sign of halting, the conduct of the traveler became each moment more strange.

No one, be it remembered, seeks the desert for a pleasure-ground. Life and business traverse it by paths along which the bones of things dead are strewn as so many blazons. Such are the roads from well to well, from pasture to pasture. The heart of the most veteran sheik beats quicker when he finds himself alone in the pathless tracts. So the man with whom pathless tracts. So the man with whom we are dealing could not have been in search of pleasure; neither was his manner that of a fugitive: not once did he look behind him. In such situations fear and curiosity are the most common sensations; he was not moved by them. When men are lonely, they stoop to any companion-ship; the dog becomes a comrade, the horse a friend, and it is no shame to shower them with caresses and speeches of love. The camel received no such token,

sun, surveyed the country on every side long and carefully, as if to identify an appointed place. Satisfied with the inspection, he drew a deep breath and nodded, as much as to say "At last! at last!" A as much as to say. "At last! at last!" A moment after he crossed his hands upon his breast, bowed his head, and prayed silently. The pious duty done, he prepared to dismount. From his throat proceeded the sound heard doubtless by the favorite camels of Job—Ikh! ikh!—the signal to kneel. Slowly the animal obeyed, grunting the while. The rider then put his foot upon the slender neck, and stepped upon the sand.

The man as now revealed was of admirable proportions, not so tall as powerful. Loosening the silken rope which held the kufiyeh on his head, he brushed the fringed folds back until his face was bare— a strong face, almost negro in color; yet the low, broad forehead, aqueline nose, the ness, along which lay their duty as often as their pleasure.

When the dromedary lifted itself out of the last break of the wady, the traveler der, in many plaits, were signs of origin

had passed the boundary of El Belka, the ancient Ammon. It was morning time. Before him was the sun, half-curtained in fleecy mist; before him also spread the desert; not the realm of drifting sands, which] was farther on, but the region where the herbage began to dwarf: where the surface is strewn with boulders of granite, and gray and brown stones, interspersed with languishing acacias and tufts of camel-grass. The oak, bramble and arbutus lay behind, as if they had come to a line, looked over into the well-less waste, and crouched with fear.

And now there was an end of path or road. More than ever the camel seemed insensibly driven; it lengthened and quickened its pace, its head pointed straight towards the horizon; through the wide nostrils it drank the wind in great draughts. The litter swayed, and rose and fell like a boat in the waves. Dried leaves in occasional beds rustled underfoot. Sometimes a perfume like absinthe sweetened all the air. Lark and chat and rock swallow

The traveler's limbs were numb, for the ride had been long and wearisome; so he rubbed his hands and stamped his feet, and walked round the faithful servant, whose lustrous eyes were closing in calm content with the cud he had already found. Often, while making the circuit, he paused, and, shading his eyes with his hands, examined the desert to the extremest verge of vision; and always, when the survey was ended, his face clouded with disappointment, slight, but enough to advise a shrewd spectator that he was there expecting company, if not by appointment; at the same time, the spectator would have been conscious of a sharpening of the curiosity to learn what the business could be that required transaction in a place so far from civilized

However disappointed, there could be little doubt of the stranger's confidence in the coming of the expected company. In token thereof, he went first to the litter, token thereof, he went first to the litter, and, from the cot or box opposite the one he had occupied in coming, produced a sponge and a small gurglet of water, with which he washed the eyes, face and nostrils of the camel; that done, from the same depository he drew a circular cloth, redand-white striped, a bundle of rods, and a stout cane. The latter, after some manipulation, proved to be a cunning device of lesser joints, one within another, which, when united together, formed a centre pole higher than his head. When the pole was planted, and the rods set around it, he was planted, and the rods set around it, he spread the cloth over them, and was literally at home—a hone much smaller than the habitations of emr and sheik, yet their the habitations of emir and sheik, yet their counterpart in all ther respects. From the litter again he brought a carpet or square rug, and covered the floor of the tent on the side for the sun. That done he went out, and once more, and with greater care and more eager eyes, swept the encircling country. Except a distant jackal, galloping across the plain, and an eagle flying towards the Gulf of Akaba, the waste below, like the blue above it, was lifeless.

He turned to the camel, saying low, and a tongue strange to the desert, "We in a tongue strange to the desert, "We are far from home, O racer with the swiftest winds—we are far from home, but

God is with us. Let us be patient."

Then he took some beans from a pocket Then he took some beats from a pocket in the saddle, and put them in a bag made to hang below the animal's nose; and when he saw the relish with which the good servant took to the food, he turned and again scanned the world of sand, dim with the glow of the vertical sun.

"They will come," he said, calmly.
"He that led me is leading them. I will make ready."

make ready."

From the pouches which lined the in terior of the cot, and from a willow basket which was part of its furniture, he brought which was part of its furniture, he brought forth materials for a meal: platters close-woven of the fibres of palms; wine in small gurglets of skin; mutton dried and smoked; stoneless shami, or Syrian pomegranates; dates of El Shelebi, wondrous rich and grown in the nakhil, or palm orchards, of Central Arabia; cheese, like David's "slices of milk;" and leavened bread from the city bakery—all which he carried and set upon the carriet under the bread from the city bakery—all which he carried and set upon the carpet under the tent. As the final preparation, about the provisions he laid three pieces of silk cloth, used among refined people of the East to cover the knees of guests while at table—a circumstance significant of the number of persons who were to partake of his entertainment—the number he was awaiting

a hand; at length assumed defined proportions. A little later, full into view swung a duplication of his own dromedary, tall and white, and bearing a houdah, the traveling litter of Hindostan. Then the

and looked to heaven.
"God only is great!" he exclaimed, his eyes full of tears, his soul in awe.

The stranger drew nigh-at last stopped. Then he, too, seemed just waking. He beheld the kneeling camel, the tent, and the man standing prayerfully at the door. He crossed his hands, bent his head, and He crossed his hands, bent his head, and prayed silently; after which, in a little while, he stepped from his camel's neck to the sand, and advanced towards the Egyptical the Egyptian towards him. A tian, as did the Egyptian towards him. A moment they looked at each other; then they embraced—that is, each threw his right arm over the other's shoulder, and the left round the right side, placing his chin first upon the left, then upon the

"And to thee, O brother of the true faith!—to thee peace and welcome," the Egyptian replied, with fervor.

The new-comer was tall and gaunt, with lean face, sunken eyes, white hair and beard, and a complexion between the hue of cinnamon and bronze. He, too, was unarmed. His costume was Hindostani; of cinnamon and bronze. He, too, was unarmed. His costume was Hindostani; over the skull-cap a shawl was wound in great folds, forming a turban; his body garments were in the style of the Egyptian's except that the aba was shorter, exposing wide flowing breeches gathered at the ankles. In place of sandals, his feet were clad in half-slippers of red leather, pointed at the toes. Save the slippers, the costume from head to foot was of white linen. The air of the man was high, stately, severe. air of the man was high, stately, severe. Visvamitra, the greatest of the ascetic heroes of the Iliad of the East, had in him He might have a perfect representative. He might have been called a Life drenched with the wis-dom of Brahma—Devotion Incarnate. Only in his eyes was there proof of humani-ty; when he lifted his face from the Egyp-tian's breast, they were glistening with tears.

'God only is great!" he exclaimed, when the embrace was finished.

when the embrace was finished.

"And blessed are they that serve Him !"
the Egyptian answered, wondering at the
paraphrase of his own exclamation. "But
let us wait," he added, "let us wait; for
see, the other comes yonder!"

They looked to the north, where, already
plain to view, a third camel, of the whitenest of the others, came careening like a
ship. They waited, standing together—
waited until the new-comer arrived, dismounted, and advanced towards them.

"Peace to yon, O my brother!" he said,
while embracing the Hindoo.
And the Hindoo answered, "God's will
be done!"

The last comer was all unlike his friends; his frame was slighter; his complexion white; a mass of waving light hair was a perfect crown for his small but beautiful head; the warmth of his dark blue eyes certified a delicate mind, and a cordial, brave nature. He was bareheaded and unarmed. Under the folds of the Tyrian brave nature. He was bareheaded and unarmed. Under the folds of the Tyrian blanket which he wore with unconscious grace appeared a tunic, short-sleeved and low-necked, gathered to the waist by a band and reaching nearly to the knee; leaving the neck, arms, and legs bare. Sandals guarded his feet. Fifty years, probably more, had spent themselves upon him, with no other effect, apparently, than to tinge his demeanor with gravity and temper his words with forethought. The physical organization and the brightness of soul were untouched. No need to tell the soul were untouched. No need to tell the student from what kindred he was sprung; if he came not himself from the groves of

Athene, his ancestry did.

When his arms fell from the Egyptian, When his arms fell from the Egyptian, the latter said, with a tremulous voice, "The Spirit brought me first; wherefore I know myself chosen to be the servant of my brethren. The tent is set, and the bread is ready for the breaking. Let me perform my office."

Taking each by the hand, he led them within and removed their sandals and

within, and removed their sandals and washed their feet, and he poured water upon their hands, and dried them with

napkins.

Then, when he had laved his own hands, he said, "Let us take care of ourselves, brethren, as our service requires, and eat, that we may be strong for what remains of the day's duty. While we eat, we will each learn who the others are, and whence they come, and how they are called."

He took them to the repast, and seated them so that they faced each other. Simultaneously their heads bent forward, their hands crossed upon their breasts, and

hands crossed upon their breasts, and speaking together, they said aloud this

simple grace:

"Father of all—God!—what we have here is of Thee; take our thanks and bless us, that we may continue to do Thy will."

With the last word they raised their eyes, and looked at each other in wonder. eyes, and looked at each other in wonder. Each had spoken in a language never before heard by the others; yet each understood perfectly what was said. Their souls thrilled with divine emotion; for by the miracle they recognized the Divine Presence.

—Ben-Hur.—A Tale of the Christ. Published by Harper Brothers.

were to give his attention to two or more worldly pursuits, he would in a measure, perhaps, fail in both, but he may be a good physician, or a skillful farmer, and none the less so because he is a good Christian. Nay, there is no honest calling in life in which a man will not be helped to private the better that the state of the eminence by true and deep piety. Everything good grows in the growth of religion. Let the man of business work on Sundays, neglecting religious duties, and his broken health will tell him his mistake; or from over-eagerness in grasping at gain let loss after loss come upon him and he will be taught that the moderation which the gospel inspires was needful for him. Many a pel inspires was needful for him. Many a worldly man may say, at the close of life, that he has gained nothing by neglecting religion. The Christian physician may say, "I might have been eminent in mere professional matters without piety, but I doubt whether I should have been so successful certainly not sa harpy." doubt whether I should have been so successful, certainly not so happy." Every one who has truly sought to serve the Lord will acknowledge that godliness is profitable for all things, for the life that now is,

"Peace be with thee, O servant of the true God!" the stranger said.

"And to thee, O brother of the true

# REGILDING THE CROWN OF THORNS.

At the harbor mouth of the little Norman seaport stands a lofty crucifix, high up against the sunrise and the sunset; the figure carved realistically enough, with eyes gazing over the sea, watching since time immemorial the outgoing ships. It is the last picture on the eyes of the fishermen as they sail away to northern latitudes for their hard, cheerless labor off the New foundland coast, and the first high landfor their hard, cheerless labor off the Newfoundland coast, and the first high land mark that greet those of them who return; for of the frail vessels that venture thither, sometimes no tiding comes again, and on those vessels sailing in, often some voice fails to answer when the women stream out to welcome them from the pier-head. For here there is a widow's dress in every young wife's wedding chest. It was well thought to set it there, for who so mystically minded as the sailor, ever face to face with the ed as the sailor, ever face to face with the mystery and majesty of nature? A good thought for these simple minds to associate with the haven of their home when they start, as one of them finely expressed it, into start, as one of them finely expressed it, into
the great waters to see the glory of God.
So it stands there, and the rough sea winds
shake it, and the sea swallows rest on the
arms of the cross, and at times the spray
rains over the three white figures at the
base. A little while ago they built a scaffolding around it, and I saw that they were
regilding the crown of thorns. To-day
there was a great stir in the little town.
From the old church, a mile up the inland
valley, a long procession passed along the riom the old church, a mile up the inland valley, a long procession passed along the hillside road, and down the sloping streets to the port. Many children, all in white, and music and many banners of many colors, came winding on below the great gray cliffs; little boys, in sailor dress, carrying a model ship; then the banner of our gray cims; inter boys, in sailor dress, carrying a model ship; then the banner of our Lady, borne by the virgins of the town; something pathetic there also—old wrinkled faces, two of them yet dressed in the virgin white among the young girls, and a coarse jest in the crowd perhaps. The sea had never brought their lovers home, yet they followed, though their yearly prayers had little availed. Then the choristers singing—an old brass trumpet to give volume to the sound; then the priests with cross and candle; so along to the Calvary at the harbor mouth. They are ranged around it now—the priests and choristers below, the fishermen and their banner in front, the white children in a wider ring, and all the people of the little town around. On one side the giant cliffs; on the other the calm sea, with its little sails drifting down the far horizon. Some one has crowned calm sea, with its little sails drifting down the far horizon. Some one has crowned the fair Madonna with a crown of white roses. A young priest is preaching at the foot of the cross. A few of the boys, in their festive dress, have broken away, and climbing the steep grass bank that leans against the cliffs, are running races down it; but the crowd is attentive, silent; a few women crying. Then there is a prayer, and they all break up, and, chanting, form into procession again. A few peasant folks linger, and go up to put their alms in the box by the altar; one old wrinkled woman kisses the feet of each saint in turn. All is silent now; the procession passes out All is silent now; the procession passes out of sight around the streets of the little town, and the crucifix stands lonely by the sea once more. So again to day, perhaps, there was a regilding of the crown of thorns.—London Society

# BEYOND THE FLOOD.

Not here the sunlit glory, Not here the cloudless light, The perfect finished story, The day that hath no night.
Our Father knoweth what is best;

Not here the shining raiment, All pure from spot or stain,
For here a weary claimant,
The heart hath tears and pain, And waiteth, waiteth till possessed Beyond the flood, of peace and rest.

Beyond the flood, He keeps our rest.

Nor here our richest treasures, Our sweetest cups of life, We'll taste the deepest pleasures,

OYSTERS FOR INVALIDS.—One way to cook oysters for an invalid is to first drain them in a colander, then melt a little sweet butter in a frying-pan, and when it is brown put the oysters in, after wiping them dry; turn them over in three or four minutes, and as soon as the gills turn up take them out and lay them on a hot plate. These will be relished many times when one is tired of oyster broth or soun. oyster broth or soup

SAVORY EGGS.—Six or eight eggs boiled hard and then cut in two; remove the yolks and ground them in a mortar quite smooth, with about a tablespoonful of anchovy sauce (more if required), a little cayenne and a tablespoonful of cream, to make into a paste; pile the mixture roughly in the twelve half whites, which must have a piece the size of a sixpence cut off at the bottom to make them stand in the dish; garnish with parsley.

CHICKEN IN JELLY.—Skin a large chicken; cut the meat off the bones as close as you can; season it as you would for a pie; put a meal crust over and stew it in the oven for two hours; boil

# Wouth's Department.

GUARD THY TONGUE.

Guard, my child, thy tongue, That it speak no wrong; Let no evil word pass o'er it; Set the watch of truth before it, That it do no wrong; Guard, my child, thy tongue. Guard, my child, thine ear-

Wicked words will sear; Let no evil word come in That may cause the soul to sin— Wicked words will sear; Guard, my child, thine ear.

Ear and eye and tongue Guard while thou art young; For, alas! these busy three Can unruly members be; Guard, while thou art young, Ears and eyes and tongue,

—Palmer's Songs of Love.

# THE ODD MINUTES.

"I have a little favor to ask," said Grandpa Bogardus, polishing his glasses and looking, with twinkling eyes, at Clar-

"What in the world can it be?" inquired Clarice breathlessly, for it was the eve of the New Year and she had heard the crumpling of papers as she darted along the hall.

"I have a parcel which I want examined; it is rather bulky and will require time: what do you say to looking over it?" "I think I should like it," replied Clar-

ice, a little perplexed. "That I cannot answer for: you may like it and you may not, but if we under-

take a thing it is proper to finish it." Grandpa Bogardus polished his glasses very hard and looked inquiringly at Clar-

ice.
"I might try."

"That sounds better, something better; but this thing requires time, patience, perseverance, and I shall expect it to be completed, if begun."

"What can it ever be?" thought Clarice gravely.

"I do not expect it done in a day, but

"I never thought a bit about it, Grandpa dear; but I believe I do."

"Well, what do you say about making a bargain, giving your odd minutes to me if said the mother. I give something in return to you?'

'I cannot think what it all means?" "I mean if you will take your odd minutes to look over the parcel, I will give

you the contents of the parcel in exchange.'

'Stay; come here, little daughter; it boughs. will not all be charming."
"Won't it, Grandpa?"

"No; you will sometimes get tired, and her mamma, after a pause. many times find it dull work, and will plenty of times feel disposed to give up the bargain altogether."

"But I do not think I will if I once decide to carry it through."

"No, you must not: that is it. Think about it, and if you decide to undertake it, carry it through. The New Year is the time for making stout resolutions, but the great thing is to keep to them."

"Dear Grandpa, won't you show me the parcel?

Yes, for I want to let you see what I think can be done by saving some of the odd minutes of a year." that lovely morning.—Early Dew.

So Grandpa Bogardus led Clarice to an alcove where the porter had deposited the parcel, and there, in the richest bindings, were twelve books-a course of profitable historical reading in such beautiful type fell off the bed. His playthings hid under and covers that Clarice exclaimed in de- the bed-clothes, and Roger cried. His light:

mean them all for me."

"They are mine until you have earned them. There is one for each month in the year: portion so many pages to each day, and you will find how many odd minutes you will have in which you can read a few pages at a time. At the end of each month, if you have won the book, I will write your in the little red pot." name within it."

"But, Grandpa, I never could do it: I never read such books in my life: they are very grave and large." - Clarice was glancing through them.

I understand them, Grandpa dear?'

like them.'

hundred pages! five hundred pages!-it used to cry, too, when I was all alone. would take me a year to read one.

Clarice shook her head despairingly. "Did you ever read twenty-five pages a day.'

"Yes, more than twenty-five pages of growing. I shall not let it die. story books, but "

"But-these will be useful and will require some resolution; yet it is an easy time; a few pages every day."

"I will do it, Grandpa dear;" said Clarice, thoughtfully, and Grandpa knew that a small battle had begun between Clarice and idleness, between Clarice and the evil habit of wasting time.

Clarice began that very day to use up the odd minutes; she was surprised to find Grandpa Bogardus had led the way to so many; but some of the pages were hard the library and rattled many papers and to understand, some of the pages were fearsnapped some strings and inquired in haste fully dry after the brightness of stories; sometimes she was half inclined to give up; she would look at the twelve books and sigh. However she came to the conclusion to put eleven away entirely out of sight and think only of the one page at a time; then she got along better, and Grandpa Bogardus was not a little pleased in February when he wrote her name in the first

So Clarice examined Grandpa Bogardus's parcel to the end, and found it pretty hard work sometimes; but who could guess how much wiser and brighter she grew by the process, how much easier she found it to finish the last books than it was to finish the first; how much easier it was to understand the last pages than the first pages, and how much she had really gained not only in actual information, but by forming a good habit, in consequence of her New Year resolve to use up the odd minutes.-Selected.

# "CHEERFULLY, CHEERFULLY."

One bright morning little Daisy was helping her mamma put the room in order. The windows were open to let in the sweet air, and as the little girl stood a moment will expect you only to make use of your by one of them, looking out, a bird in the odd minutes; do you ever have odd mincedars sang out, "Cheerfully," The words were so plainly sung that Daisy said, "O mamma, do hear that birdie singing 'cheerfully.'"
"Do you think he says 'cheerfully?'"

"It sounds just like it, mamma."

"Well, it is a cheery song he sings, isn't it? He must be happy, don't you think?" "Yes, mamma;" and she leaned out to

try and get a glimpse of the bird in the was all she could see through the thick

"Suppose you take his advice, Daisy, to-day, and do everything cheerfully," said

It was a new thought to Daisy that a pretty soon, with a little sober face, she said:

"I will try to do as the birdie says, mamma;" and all day long she did try, especially if mamma would say "cheerfully," by way of a reminder. Even little Janie, the baby sister, caught the spirit, and sang "cheerfully, cheerfully," in birdlike tones and with a happy heart.

So the birdie did something besides sing

# THE MISSION FOR THE SICK.

Roger Deland was sick. He was just sick enough to be cross. His picture-book ght:
"Grandpa! Grandpa dear! you cannot like the story. Then she told him a true received in England until 1752. Eleven story about the "Mission for the Sick."

"Kind ladies met in a hall," she said,

"and took with them fruit, flowers and good things for sick men, women and dear little children." Roger was pleased. He thought about the mission some time; then he said, "I wish I could send my rose bush

"You can if you wish," said his mother. "and I will write a note for you." Roger's eyes grew bright. His mother wrote: Roger Deland sends this rose to some og through them.

"This house is large; it could not have nice basket. Three days after the postman

cry. I never cry since the rose-bush came. solar year.—Harper's Young People.

"But would I like them; I mean, would I sit in my chair and watch it. I thank you, and mother does too. I learned to "The more you read, the better you will write before I fell down on the ice. My understand them and the better you will mother cannot write, but she says she will ask God to bless you. She can work bet-"But I could not get through them: four ter, for the rose keeps me company. She

"The rose will grow forever, she says. I hope it will not die."

"My mother says, if it does not die in the pretty pot, the goodness will keep

Your friend, MARY BRENNAN." When Roger's mother finished reading the note her little boy looked very happy task; one book at a time; one page at a After that, he sent little Mary some of his He is well now, but he never forgets the Mission of the Sick .- Our Little Ones.

## THE GREGORIAN CALENDAR.

A calendar is the means of reckoning time. Our calendar begins with the birth of Christ, from which time we count up eighteen hundred and eighty-two years. The Jews and the Russians begin with the creation of the world. The Chinese and Egyptians reckoned by the lives of their kings. The Romans began with the founding of their city, 753 B. C. The Greeks counted the years by Olympiads of five years each, beginning with the first Olympic Games, in 776 B. D. The Mohammedans reckon from the flight of Mohammed to Medina. Savages notch upon trees a mark for each year as it passes

Years are of two kinds, the solar and the lunar. The solar or sun year is founded upon the revolution of the earth around the sun. The lunar is composed of twelve revolutions of the moon. Our calendar uses solar years, and divides each vear into twelve months of different lengths. It is founded upon the Roman calendar, which was reformed by Julius Cæsar and an Egyptian mathematician, Sosigenes Cæsar found the Roman calendar in great disorder. The true regulation of time had been forgotten. The summer months had become autumn or winter months. Cæsar corrected these errors, and nearly all modern nations use the mode of reckoning time this famous Roman devised. It is known as the Julian calendar.

Cæsar made the year consist of three hundred and sixty-five days and six hours. He divided it into tweeter months, and every fourth or leap year added a day to consume the hours unprovided for. His reformed calendar began the forty-sixth year before Christ, and the names of the months were nearly like our own. January became again winter, and March and April spring.

The Romans counted their years from the founding of their city, but about the seventh or eighth century the Western Christians began to date from the birth of Christ. A monk, Dionysius, is said to have "Oh, how charming! Where is it? Is it tree. A glancing of bright brown wings introduced the new method, and it was soon in use among all the Western nations.

The Julian calendar was not perfectly accurate. The true solar year is only three hundred and sixty-five days, five hours, forty-eight minutes, and forty-six seconds long. The Julian year was therefore nearly bird should teach her a lesson, and she twelve minutes too long. It gained more laughed. But she knew her fault, and than three days every four hundred years, and hence in 1582 what should have been the 15th of October, dating from the council of Nice, 325 A. D., was known as the 5th. Pope Gregory XIII., aided by intelligent mathematicians, resolved to correct the error, and provide a calendar that should be exact for all time. It is the one we now use, and is called from him the Gregorian calendar. It omitted ten days, making the 5th of October, 1582, the 15th, and for the future provided that three days should be dropped in every four hundred years. The years 1700, 1800, and 1900 each lose a single day, while the year 2000 will be a leap-year. Thus every century not divisible by four loses one day.

The Gregorian calendar was slowly adopted in Protestant countries, and has days were then omitted from the month of September, 1751; the 2d was made the 14th. and the Gregorian method of computing time became obligatory over England and English America. Much opposition was made: the terms New and Old Style arose. and before 1752 it is always necessary to allow for the change in the calendar. The New Style began January 1, 1752.

On the 15th of October, 1882, occurred the three hundredth anniversary of the reform introduced by Gregory XIII. It recalls the fact that we are computing time by a method first arranged by Julius Cæsar, been built in a day, but it was finished a brought Roger a note, it said:

"Dear Little Box.—I am lame. I reaches so far back into the history of man, and corrected by Gregory, but whose origin at a time when you have an odd minute. can never walk. My mother goes out that we can never discover what race or There are a great many odd minutes in a washing. I am alone all day. I used to what man of science first measured the

# THE GIFTS OF THE MAGI.\*

From Eastern lands there came afar,

Led by a bright, mysterious star

Wise men, who sought an infant King That they might worship Him, and bring Their treasures as an offering. It was the infant Christ they songht, And would you know the gifts they brought Gold was the first; in every land, In every age, it doth command Service and Comforts; such indeed, They thought this infant Child would need, For though a King, no royal state, Nor liveried servants on Him wait; No room for Him the inn could spare, Alas! He is not wanted there. So in a manger He is laid, And to Him there the Shepherds paid Their homage first. The Angel's word "A Saviour which is Christ the Lord" They see fulfilled; and joyful raise, As home they go, their notes of praise The Wise men, too, their homage paid, And added gold. By some 'tis said That they were Kings. They understand That Christ will have the heart and hand.

Though now above He reigns supreme, Of saints and angels' songs the theme, Where gold, that precious thing of earth Which Wise men gave Him at His birth, Is not the current coin that buys The joys that upper world supplies, Yet still it will acceptance meet When laid an offering at His feet By those who keep not back the heart. Gold in His service bears a part On earth; it helps His cause to spread, By it His hungry poor are fed. Ye did it unto these," says He. "And did it therefore unto Me."

Another gift the Wise men brought Was Myrrh; for its perfume they sought Who made the precious ointment poured On rulers chosen by the Lord. We see in Myrrh a present meet The Prophet from on high to greet Who came the Father's love to show And save us from eternal woe .-The Holy Ghost anointed One, For without measure to the Son God gave the Spirit, that He might With Heaven's day illume our night. The Wise mon knew not this, but we

When Christ to Calvery was led Where for our sins His blood was shed, The soldiers gave Him Myrrh with wine, He would not drink, but chose to die. And suffer all the agony.

Such lesson in the gift may se

When Joseph begged that he might have His body for his own new grave, And Nicodemus came to show How far his secret love could go, With Myrrh and other spices 'round In linen fine and clean they wound His sacred form, then laid away Till morn of resurrection day.

Another gift, for there were three, Was Frankincense; in it we see The swinging censer's lesson taught, As clouds of incense upward sought The regions where the heavens lie, And bore their message to the sky, When priest before the altar stood While crowds in praying attitude Without the Temple hail the sign Ascending, and their prayers combine In one petition heavenward To Him who prayer has always heard.

This Temple service long is mute, For Christ, the sinner's Substitute, Has once for all been offered up, And now on High, the sinner's hope. He intercedes before the throne And claims poor sinners for His own. These whom to Him the Father gave, These whom on earth He died to save, He wants to share His victory That where He is they too may be Through Him our praise must daily rise Like fragrant incense to the skies; For in His Name our prayer appears. And for His sake the Father hears.

The gifts these Eastern sages brought, With lessons such as these are fraught. They brought gifts to an infant King; In honor to His birth we bring his service as an offering,-This festal scene—a pleasing sight,
To gaze upon this Christmas night.

\* The above lines on the gifts of the Wise nen, were written by Rev. Geo. W. Snyder, Pastor of the Second Reformed Church, Harris-They were spoken by three boys at the Christmas service of the Sunday School, Monday evening, Dec, 25th.

# DELICACY.

The true gentleman never alludes to the infirmities of people in whose company he may be. He has too great respect for their feelings to do that. Boys and girls doubt. At breakfast he cut an egg in two who wish to become true gentlemen and and gave the new hired man one-half of it. ladies soon learn to regard the feelings of others, and are careful not to wound them. evidently very sorry that he was not able it, and is still alive.

to take part in the exciting game. Indeed, he seemed to lose sight of the fact how much his infirmity unfitted him to join in the sport of his stout and healthy companions. The other boys good-naturedlly tried to persuade him to stand on one side and let another take his place; but they were thoughtful enough to put it on the ground that they were afraid he might get hurt.

"Why, Jimmy," said one at last, forgetting himself for a moment, "you can't run, you know."

"Oh, hush!" answered another, the tallest boy of the party. "Never mind; I'll run for him, and you can count it for him."

So saying the noble fellow took his place by Jimmy's side, saying to the other in a lower tone

"If you were like him, you wouldn't like to be told of it all the time.

Was not he a true gentleman? He knew his little playmate was lame, and rightly judging that he did not care to be reminded of it, he acted accordingly. His thoughtfulness of the feelings of others is greatly to be commended and is worthy of imitation.—Classmate.

## THE MISSING STONE.

The quarry was far up over the mountain, and all day long, if you had been there, you could have heard the constant click of the great hammers as they broke off huge pieces of the rock. Then a party of men with their picks loosed these stones so that other workmen could get them on their sledges or drags that they might be hauled down the mountain-side to the stone-cutters.

These last with chisel and mallet shaped the stones, now rounding a corner, now chipping a bit from the sides, so that they would fit together to assist in the building of the great church, whose spire was destined to rise far above every other building in the valley.

Many weeks had passed since the cornerstone was laid, and already the walls were going up, when, on a bright summer morning, one of the masons was seen, trowel in hand, looking about him. Now he turned over one stone, then he hunted behind another for something that he could not find.

"Hallo, Jim; what's the matter?" asked one of his fellow-workmen.

"One stone is missing, and I want it." "How can it be lost?

"Dunno, I was sure that it came up on

the last drag, and now I cannot find it." "Try another." "No use, lad. It was, to be sure, one

of the crookedest pieces that I ever handled, not only three-cornered, but oblong; but it was cut to fit into this angle, and I need it.'

"Chip off another."

"No; what's the use, lad, when that is just what I want?"

And Jim turned away, whistling, to renew the search. At last his patience was rewarded, and the missing stone was found among the straw in which it had been packed; and, being found, was slipped into its place, and the great building went on growing higher and higher.

Little friends, God is preparing a temple that will last to all eternity. Some of the stones are easily smoothed, others have to be clipped and hammered and chiselled to fit them for their places; and now and then there is a contrary bit that is crooked and three cornered and oblong, but he has a place for just that bit, into which none other will fit. We need not be discouraged, even if we are tried and disciplined. The contrary bit will not be set aside for any other, nor without it would God's temple be complete. Ask God that in that last great day you may not be a missing stone that cannot be found.-N. Y. Observer.

# Pleasantries.

Whoever doubts that the newspapers have a mission should enter a car and see how useful they are to the men when a fat woman with a big-basket is looking around for a seat.

He was a pretty close man, without The help ate it and held out his plate for more. "What!" grasped the host, "want This was once beautifully illustrated a hull egg!" "Of course I do," said the among a company of robust, active boys man. The boss stared blankly at him a who were busy playing base-ball. A little moment, and then pushing the half-egg lame fellow about twelve years old, pale across the table snappishly cried, "Take and sickly, stood leaning on his crutches, it, eat it, and kill yourself." The man ate

# THE MESSENGER.

REV. P.S. DAVIS, D.D., EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

To CORRESPONDENTS. Communications on practical subjects, and items of intelligence relating to the Church, are solicited. Persons who forward communications should not write anything pertaining to the business of the office on the back of their communications, but on a separate slip—or, if on the same sheet, in such a way that it can be separated from the communication, without affecting it.

out affecting it.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the return of unaccepted manuscripts.

# WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1883.

will bring with it new consecration and increased aggressive work in the cause of Missions. Let every brother see to this in his own field. Our own prosperity, and the strong in their Republican feelings. extension of Christ's Kingdom depend upon

to the Lord, for missions, the orphans or such services, and very few congregations to the "victor and the vanquished." neglect it. We are especially pleased to goods, and they have raised a great deal of ure by a two third vote, and the only embar with those of charges in the wealthier sec- cution of the laws that may be enacted. tions of the church, and Bro. Hoffheins able and ready to do.

A notice given in the Phila. Ledger that things, the more likely it is to succeed. a distinguished Unitarian minister would preach a Christmas sermon induced us to go and hear what he would say. The Church was tastefully trimmed, and over the pulpit was placed in golden letters at Mercersburg, given in the Church Almathese words, "This is eternal life to know nac for 1883, brings up a hundred old thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ memories, not only of venerated teachers whom thou hast sent." The discourse was and beloved school-mates, but of the well ship, and it was delivered in the impressive clung to the institution like barnacles to a manner for which the preacher has long ship. been distinguished.

Jesus were His chief recommendations, and His purity and wisdom were highly ex- characters so familiar to the place those tolled.

that St. John had said nothing about the up a few of the "boys" that roomed in one constitution of Christ's person; but one end of the building. Two little ones somecould not but think that the same author- times called from their diminutive size the ity might declare the whole supernatural Maryland infantry found eyrie in the southelement in the Bible a fable. The sad west corner of the fourth story. Next door lesson learned was, that men may celebrate to them were Herman Rust and Jacob Christmas in churches wreathed with ever. O. Miller, and right across the passage, greens, and hear polished discourses and were Frisby S. Newcomer and John Conrad yet be taught to deny the Incarnation of Bucher, succeeded by Joseph Coblentz and Christ-the fundamental miracle that John H. Thomas. Next to them were the brought the life and power of God into the gifted Joseph Clark and Amos Barnett; service of humanity.

ment has lately received in some of the Van Dyke. Directly under the small boys, States of the Union, has furnished its was the room of Joshua H. Derr and Wilfriends some food for reflection. In Iowa liam M. Deatrick; across from them was the Prohibitory Law passed with a gush D. Stanley Gloninger, who has since bethat neglected to be careful, has been pro- come a very Luke to us. Then came Nero nounced unconstitutional, and unless the S. Strassburger who was already a member decision of Judge Hayes is reversed by the of the Theological seminary, and his next Supreme Court, the work will have to be neighbor was Lewis H. Steiner-a very good done over again.

sas has been defeated by an overwhelming a new student from being ginger-breaded majority. If this overthrow has been the into the Diagnothian society. On a lower work of the Liquor men, as Gov. St. John story were Martin A. Smith, Charles H. says, it makes things all the worse, as it Albert, Jas. H. Reigert, and others. shows that the serpent has only been dependence is to be put upon popular sentiment that may change with the wind.

have swept away all republicans; if it had defeated all prohibitionists. But while Gov. St. John was left fifteen thousand votes behind, the rest of his ticket was elected by nearly forty thousand. Among those chosen to the legislature were Greenbackers and We hope the year we have just entered the Governor's vote fell off most, we are told, in Quaker communities where the people are rigid in their temperance sentiments, and have hitherto been notoriously

There is no use then to put the blame on one party or to say that whiskey ruled the roast. The secret of the matter is, Gov. past, collections for benevolent objects people, whether right or wrong, were ophave been taken up at nearly all the posed to giving him a third. The temperspecial services of our Church. An offering ence leaders who thought his candidacy necessary to success, found him to be a some other work has come to be part of dead weight, and the result was a surprise

The temperance sentiment is as strong at Martinsburg, W. Va, on Christmas day. parties have a majority in the legislature The people there are not rich in this world's that will enable them to carry any measmoney for home purposes during the past rassment that may be experienced for two few years, but their gifts will compare well years to come, will be in the prompt exe-

deserves to be congratulated. There should temperance movement is too often handior law office of any of the aforesaid be emulation in this matter. These capped by other things that are a hinder-students and announce his name, he would special offerings, together with the regular contributions, we hope will become uni- on to "Woman's Rights" and every other His old friends might forget to call him versal, and the more our people do in this possible thing, upon which fanatics have way, the more they will find themselves wished to legislate, but to which the good sense of the people is opposed, and the more thoroughly it is divested of these

# WHAT HAS BECOME OF HIM?

them—one of whom was the most intimate tween the two inner pillars, whereas they friend of Jesus said nothing about it and once extended the full length of the portico. first in a credulous age and afterwards them the theme of an oration, in which he sent down to us as legends. Speculative said they gave way, "bearing on their delusion. Christmas was a festival of chil- evident reference to the present worthy

But one is led to think of some of the a darkened soul. thirty odd years ago. Leaving off the dig-It seemed strange to hear it asserted nity and titles since acquired, let us call then came No. 42 occupied by Matthew V. are glad to make the correction. L. McLelland, who found worthy succes-The back-set which the temperance move- sors in Andrew K. Seyster and Wesley boy albeit a youthful monopolist, who once In the meantime Gov. St. John of Kan- bought out the village cake shop to prevent

If these men could be collected upon would be apt to speak of the "Old Davy Johnson"—the janitor. He is, we hope, We think, however, that the overthrow in glory now, for while graver theologians

more apparent than real. There were ple confidence that when the pearly gates other causes which contributed to the re- were thrown wide open he "would float inbaugh, D. D., President, Mercersburg, sult—causes which produced the political right in fur sho." But we wonder what revolution all over the country. Gov. St. has become of "Little Davy." This David John's defeat was not brought about by Ben-David was himself an institution. As Democratic votes, but by a defection in we recollect him, he was about two-thirds the party to which he belonged, and the the height of an ordinary corn-broom, a objection to him was largely made indepen- specimen of which he generally held over dent of the temperance question. If the his shoulder by placing his wrist on the wave had been purely Democratic it would stick, so as to have both hands free when he wished to beat time on the dust-pan been purely anti-prohibition it would have with his brush. He was about the color of strong coffee toned to a rich brown with good Franklin County cream, such as a member of a boarding club was falsely accused of obtaining by milking a professor's | bolder one for the Review, The Guardian, cow at midnight. We will say nothing of The Child's Treasury, The Sunshine, Davy's typical physiognomy, but we will the Sentinel and Herald and all say, that he had in one respect most re- our Sunday School helps. They will all markable powers of adaptation. Any body's clothes were regarded as fitting him. Derr, the more widely they are scattered the Miller, Smith, and Seyster were nearly as better it will be for pastors and people. large then as now, yet he could wear the coat of either of them without the least inconvenience. He would roll back the sleeves about a foot and leave the tail drag years of age, he still retains much of the We are glad to note, that for some time St. John had served two terms, and the on the floor. It was even asserted that he could wear the brethren's boots without inconvenience, and when Davy would move through the classic halls whistling and beating on the dust pan, with the firebucket shuffle of his feet for bass of the music he was apt to bring Seyster's flute and Newcomer's fiddle into concert, and note the contributions of the congregation as ever it was. The prohibitionists of all get the infants into a racket that was sure and Judge William Helfenstein, whose to attract any professor who was at all with- delicate health forced him to abandon the in hearing distance.

If living, the aforesaid son of a worthy now survive. sire, must be an American citizen over forty years old, and he doubtless exercised Independent of the cases cited above the should he call at the manse or doctor shop Mr. Johnson," but they would give him a generous shake of the hand and say these long years?'

The Prefect of the Seine is going to re-The picture of the Seminary Building, not accepted by persons of all religious that the end would justify the means.

That evidently another that the end would justify the means. radical movement, in favor of erasing any The next effort will be to insert something a finished specimen of belles lettres scholar- known servants and literary cranks that clearly infidel. The French tried that, however, once before when they put upon the lintels of their sepulchres "Death is an eternal sleep;" but they were glad But the statements made in it were, that the birth of Christ was involved in obscu-much larger and the steps in front of the more comforting. By the way, what an rity; that of the four Evangelists, two of building now occupy only the space be- immense undertaking it would be to efface what God has written? Even if unbelief could destroy the Bible as a book, its dethat Christ Himself had never alluded to It was on a pleasant summer evening, just clarations would have to be eliminated it. The records of Saints Matthew and after a storm, when the sun was setting in from other literature, and then the poor Luke about supernatural agencies and all its glory that the old college steps wretches would have to go with dark lanmanifestations, were myths, believed at went down. A freshman afterwards made terns, and mallets, and chisels, and cut off utions made at its beginning. Then, "forwhat has been engraved upon the tombs for nearly nineteen centuries. And even if philosophy had done the rest in fixing the broad bosom the stately son of Ohio"-an that were done, the word would live in the hearts of the people, and go down through dren which all might amiably enjoy. But superintendent of the Orphans' Home at the ages orally, the inspiration of every comforting thought, and the light of many

> should have given the credit of the work to Rev. D. Schley Schaff, son of Rev. Dr. Philip Schaff, rather than to the Dr. himthat Dr. Schaff's name appeared on the title page, although the son wrote the pre-We have since been informed by those work of condensing the larger Commentary ution. by Dean Howson and Canon Spence, and that the practical notes are also his.

held its first annversary on the 21st inst. of the Temperance movement has been were distressed with doubts, he had a sim- but students will be received at any time.

Franklin Co., Pa.

The Christian Advocate says it depends upon Methodist preachers to promote its circulation, and we think the main reliance of church papers in every denomination is upon its ministry. And ministers ought to see what an ally they have with the press. We think there is in our church a growing appreciation of her periodicals, but to put forth their real power they should be far more extensively circulated. We speak a modest word for the MESSENGER, and a come this year in an improved form, and

We had a call from Rev. Dr. J. C. Bucher last week. Although nearly seventy-nine vivacity of his earlier days. Dr. Bucher was licensed to preach the gospel in 1828. He belonged to the first class sent out from our Theological Seminary, then located at Carlisle. There were twelve members of the class, and the late Dr. Schneck was the thirteenth who entered the ministry that year. Dr. Bucher, Rev. J. G. Fritchey work at the very threshold, are all that

The Roman Catholics are greatly exerhis franchise at the late election. But cised over Archbishop Purcell's debts which aggregate something over four millions of dollars. The attempt to raise the money by subscription has realized only doubtless meet with a warm reception. \$60,000—hardly enough to pay two per cent. of the obligations. The Catholic Telegraph, the nominal organ of the delinquent diocese, urges that a "lottery" be resorted "How are you, Davy? And where have to, on the ground that it would be better you been? And what have you been doing to save a wrecked party in a smuggler's boat than to allow them to drown. It admits that lotteries have a demoralizing influence, but hints that it is well to choose move from the gates of cemeteries symbols the least of two evils, or in other words

Rev. H. K. Binkley sends twelve new and every thing that speaks of Christianity. subscribers for the MESSENGER, and four for the Hausefreund from the Mt. Pleasant charge of which Rev. R. Rauhauser is pastor. The bad condition of the country roads in York County prevented the canvas of one congregation.

# RESOLUTIONS.

We have entered upon a New Year. New resolutions are now in order. Perhaps, if we look over the year just ended, we will find that we have, in many instances, miserably failed in keeping the resolgetting the things which are behind, and reaching forth unto the things which are before," and seeking Divine aid, let us strive for the mastery over the foes that will of God.

In a late notice of the "International Joshua, one of the most eminent of the Revision Commentary" on the Acts we saints of God: "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." This, in general terms, should be the resolve of every rational soul; and it should be expected of self. We were naturally misled by the fact every one especially who stands in covenant relation with God in His Church: as an individual, to serve the Lord; as the head of a family, if such he be, to include who know, that the young man did all the all the members thereof in the pious resol-

Rev. Dr. Aughinbaugh calls attention the Divine law. It was a sacramental regards church order and discipline; the says "The experience of the past year Jewish consecration to the service of God, contemptible in the eyes of the community satisfies me that a self-supporting school of separation from the world and from sin. can be built up here, and the property for But no one had perfectly met the demands which our fathers made so many sacrifices of the law as signified by this holy ordisaved, and turned to useful account. As nance. It had become more and more eviis a separate building and are under the responsibility which circumcision implied yourself that you are getting a new family supervision of lady teachers. Interest in and demanded. Only because He had no to make up for one you have recently lost; behalf of the school is earnestly solicited," sin He could satisfy the demands of a rite you hasten to call on the new-comers. The revived Marshall Literary Society which proclaimed the subject a sinner. Without sin He took the sinner's place; scotched, not killed, and that very little the old spot to talk over past times, they and the orations and recitations are spoken for He was born under the law, that He are very much attached to their old church

For particulars, address, Rev. G. W. Augh- of Christ's perfect obedience, we may expect to make good progress in the Christian life, and end the year and our earthly pilgrimage rejoicing in the Lord, rather than regretting a year of broken resolutions, neglected opportunities, with clouded prospects of the better life to come.

Let all the people of God resolve anew, in the strength of Him who was circumcised in His spotless flesh, to follow that glorious example of obedience to God. Buried with Him in baptism, we need to be risen with Him to newness of life. That is the circumcision of Christ: dead to the world-alive unto God: casting away the works of darkness, and putting on the armor of light.

## THE DISMISSAL OF MEMBERS.

The above topic has called out some little discussion in the MESSENGER of late. The occasion for this discussion was a series of resolutions introduced on the floor of the Pittsburgh Synod at its late meeting at Redbank, by Rev. A. E. Truxal. The action proposed in these resolutions was somewhat different, and much more radical than anything advocated by the writers in the MESSENGER, J. W. L. and J. B. S. In order to bring the matter before the Church in the form in which it came before the Synod, we give the original resolutions:

"Resolved 1. That in the opinion of this "Resolved 1. That in the opinion of this Synod, the charges of the Reformed Church adjoining each other, excepting those in towns and cities where two or more exist, should be separated by fixed geographical lines.

"Resolved 2. That the classes constituting the Pittsburgh Synod be instructed at their next annual meetings to proceed to establish such division lines wherever necessary."

sary.
"Resolved 3. That hereafter no pastor

"Resolved 3. That hereafter no pastor shall be permitted to minister in spiritual things to any persons living within the bounds of another charge, without the special permission of classis.

"Resolved 4. That all pastors be instructed, when any of their members move into the bounds of another charge, to send their certificates of dismissal at once to the pastor of said charge."

These are the resolutions which were before the Synod. And a most interesting and profitable discussion was had on the general subject. It was argued with great force by the author of the paper, and others, that there should not be only a partial, but a full parallel between the civil and ecclesiastical organizations in this respect. The nation is divided into states, the states into counties, the counties into townships and the townships into school-districts; and all these divisions and subdivisions are divided by accurate geographical lines. Moreover this plan works well. In fact it is the only thing that would work under the circumstances Any other plan than that of fixed boundaries would lead to endless misunderstandings, confusion and conflict. In the Reformed Church we have a similar plan up to a certain point. There is one General Synod, then district synods, classes, and pastoral charges. The district synods are separated by fixed boundaries; the classes are within and around us, that we may accomplish our life's work according to the graphical lines. There, however, the paallel ends. But why? Would it not be a What a noble resolution was that of great gain, every way, if we were to go a step further, and fix geographical boundaries for our charges? Such was the argument in favor of the resolutions.

The evils arising from the state of things sought to be abrogated by these resolutions, as every pastor must have experienced, are serious ones. The jurisdiction of adjacent pastors is not defined. Persons living on the debatable territory make choice of pastors, or go from one to the other often, doubtless, on the impulse The Christian Church commemorates, of the merest whim or of some fancied We on New Year's day, the circumcision of grievance. Heart-burnings result. Wrong our Lord. Thus our living Head, Christ, is done a faithful pastor. Confusion ensubmitted Himself in humble obedience to sues. The people become demoralized as in a circular to the flourishing condition of resolution to fulfil it in every part. It authority of the church is set at naught MERCERSBURG COLLEGE Revived. He was the Divinely appointed method of with impunity, and the church becomes

Again, a young man marries a wife and moves into your charge from the home of his childhood, ten or twenty miles away. He and his wife are members of the Re now organized the school conflicts with no dent that by the deeds of the law no man formed Church; a sphere of usefulness is educational interest in the Church. It is could be justified. Only He who came to opened to them in the congregation over open to both sexes. Lady boarders room take away sin could assume and bear the which you are pastor; you congratulate but what is your chagrin to find that their plans are very different from yours? They of as highly creditable. The music was might redeem those who were under its and their old pastor; they expect to get furnished by the Chambersburg Orchestra. curse; He was made sin for us, that we back there frequently; they don't know The winter term opened on the 2d inst., might become partakers of His holiness. how long they will stay in your neighbor-If we begin the New Year in the spirit hood, probably not more than four or five

Synod of the United States.

The Christmas services in the church at Sunbury, Ps., on Monday, 25th December, were two in number, both being well attended, and very interesting and edifying. The church was decorated with the usual evergreen trimmings. The first service was held at 6 o'clock, A. M., as has been our custom for several years. A prominent and inspiring feature was the music, which, together with all other parts of the service, was of a character befitting the occasion. In the afternoon, at 2.30 o'clock, the annual Sunday-school festival, with distribution of gits, took place. The services were conducted throughout according to a printed programme, prepared for the occasion, and were heartily participated in by all. A special collection for the cause of missions, made in connection with the morning service amounted to \$9.99, and one in the afternoon for the benefit of Orphans' Home, reached \$23.32.

Pleasant and profitable Christmas services were held in St. Markle shows here

which, together with all other parts of the service, was of a character betiting the occasion. In the afternoon, at 2.30 o'clock, the annual sunday-achool festival, with distribution of gifts took place. The services were conducted throughout according to a printed programme prepared for the occasion, and were heartily participated in by all. A special collection with the morning services were needed to the benefit of Orphans Home, reached \$23.32.

Home, reached \$23.32.

Heaven and apportable Orbitatmas services were held in St. Mark's church, Easton, Pambe initiant department of the Sunday-school held its exercises, and the main school in the verning.—A special programme had been prepared, and was very excellently carried out. The most in the participated in the part of the Visit of the decident of the verning.—A special programme had been prepared, and was very excellently carried out. The most in the part of the Visit stituble addresses. The church was distributed the sunday-ackogle of Christmas candies.

On Christmas morning a very enjoyable service was held at 6 o'clock, at which, in spite of the earliness of the hour, a very large audient style, two very fine selections of music. On Christmas morning a very played been cannot be the benefit of the feature style, two very fine selections of music. On Christmas morning a very large audience was present. The choir, under the efficient style, two very fine selections of music. In the evening-the Sunday-school readers of the hour, a very large audience was present. The choir, under the efficient style, two very fine selections of music. On the part of the feature style, two very fine selections of music. In the evening-the Sunday school readers of the hour, avery large audience was prevent of the Christmas service of the Sunday school problems of the contributions of the society during the year amounted to the cannot selected the service was held at 6 o'clock, at which, in spite of the earliness of the hour, avery large audience was proved with the service was of several authems. Then followed the exercises of the primary or infant department, also in two parts, on 'The Birth of Christ,' with three Christmas anthems, sung very sweetly by the Bittle children. The chorus by a band of little girls, was particularly good. Short addresses by Rev. Dr. Kremer and Superintendent Joseph L. Lemberger, were next listened to, and after more singing a collection was lifted for Bethamy Orphan's Home, at Womeldooff, which we learn amounts to fifty dollars. The girls, numbering six hundred and fifty, were then distributed among the scholars, teachers and officers. The music was directed by Professor L B. Keller, and an appreciation of his service as chorister, was manifested by a presentation to him, effort the services were concluded, of an elegant gold and ivory mounted choop baton. Many gifts were exchanged between scholars and teachers, notably among the number was the gift of a handsome Modern Teacher's Bible from class were exchanged between scholars and teachers, notably among the number was the gift of a handsome Modern Teacher's Bible from class by one of the typos of the News. A handsome for the extraction of this service was exceeded in front of the pulpit and the Church was nicely featoned with green, which on the left isset side of the altar. The pleasant event occurred the services were considered by provided the featon of the stream of the church of the contributed during the day was foreign when the presentation to him, section of the stream of the contributed during the day was foreign when the presentation is peech being made by one of the typos of the News. A handsome for the contributed of the altar is a many previous—the presentation speech being made by one of the typos of the News. A handsome foreign were the service of the birds of the altar of the first Reformed Church as and the Optical previous of the first search of the service of the birds of the altar of the first Reformed Church was handsomely featoned with a sex-recise on the birth of Churt, after whi

years, and it would not be worth while to change pastors for that length of time. So they talk; and all you can say does not change their plans. You feel that their presence in your congregation, without becoming members, is an element of weakness. They are virtually of little account to the congregation to which they hold on in spite of the ten or twenty miles which they must travel to reach it. And their won church and religious duties are liable to be less and less faithfully attended to.

These are a few of the evils which fixed boundary lines between pastoral charges might prevent.

L.

Church Sews.

OUR OWN CHURCH.

OUR OWN CHURCH.

Spaced of the United States.

The Christmas services in the church at Sambury, Pa., on Monday, 25th December, were two in a unaber, both being well attended and very interesting and editying. The church was decorated with the cure overgreen trimings. The first service was decorated with the susual correct past of the pastor help and of the past of the service was decorated with the usual feature of the pastor help and the past of the service was of a character befitting the occasion to the heart of the service was of a character befitting the occasion to the three of the service was of a character befitting the occasion to the church at sambury, Pa., on Monday, 25th December, were two in a unaber, both being well attended and very interesting and editying. The church was decorated with the usual feature of the pastor of the service was of a character befitting the occasion to the author of the service was of a character befitting the occasion to the author of the service was of a character befitting the occasion to the terror of the pastor of the service was of a character befitting the occasion to the terror of the pastor of the service was of a character befitting the occasion to the correct with the usual feature of the service was of a character befitting the occasion to the author of the service was of a character befitting the occasion to the author of the service was of

Christmas was celebrated with the usual festi-

burg congregation, as at all former Christmas festivals during the present pastorate of over six years, very kindly remembered the pastor and his wife.

The Christmas service of Trinity Reformed congregation and Sunday-school at Manchester, Md., took place on Christmas evening. The congregation assembled on the occasion was very large, filling the church to its utmost capacity. The audience chamber of the church was appropriately and tastefully decorated. The altar and pulpit were beautifully adorned with wreaths of evergreens, and figures wrought into symbolical designs. Over the pulpit floated the star of Bethlehem. Over the pulpit floated the star of Bethlehem. Over the pulpit recess appeared the angelie message, "Behold, I bring you good tidings," &c., and within the recess, in large letters, the word "Bethlehem." At each side of the chancel stood a Christmas tree, reaching to the ceiling, and richly loaded with cornucopias, &c. Around the walls of the church ran a legend involving the names and offices of Christ. The order of service was prepared for the occasion by the pastor, and was much enjoyed by all present. It consisted of singing of a number of hymns, carols and chants, of prayer, antiphonal reading of Scripture, an address by the pastor, and a collection for Bethany Orphans' Home. At the close of the service the trees were stripped, and the gifts distributed to the children of the Sunday-school. There were gifts of special value also for the organist, to whose efficiency so much of the enjoyment of the occasion was due, for the sexton, and a purse, containing a handsome sum of money, for the pastor, which the latter received with thanks to the generous contributors. Trinity congregation has become noted for its hearty celebration of the Christmas festival, but the last service exceeded any former efforts of the same kind.

Christmas services at the Second Reformed church, Greensburg, Pa., were held on Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Monday morning at 6 o'clock. The Sunday service was mainly in

# Pittsburg Synod.

Christmas gitt.—Exening Frees.

Pittsburg Synod.

Rev. F. B. Hahn writes that, upon the invitation of the pastor, Rev. J. W. Pontius, he attended the reconsecration of St. John's Church, in Zions charge, Crawford county, Pa. This took place on the 10th instant. The snowfall on the previous night did not prevent a large attendance. Four-fifths of the amount of the debt incured was raised, and the balánce assured by the congregation, so that the house, was set apart for sacred purposes free from encumbrance. The building was extended 20 feet, and now affords accommodations for five hundred people. The pulpit, reading-desk, altar and pews are all new and tasteful. The aisles are beautifully carpeted, and the audience room lighted by four chandelliers. Our correspondent says: "The people of St. John's can well rejoice in view of the improvements made. This is the third house of worship that has undergone repairs during the pastorate of Bro. Pontius, and the fourth will soon be undertaken." As this is an index of the faith and zeal of the people, the pastor may congratulate himself.

Rev. W. M. Andrews writes from the Greenfield Charge: "I am much encouraged in my field of labors. Since my pastorate commenced here last May, I have added twelve persons to the Church; baptized thirty-two infants; married nine couples. The Church here is in earnest in church and Sunday-school work. We have under way the erection of five churches, which we hope to have ready for dedication by next September."

Rev. S. Z. Beam writes: "We had a fine Christmas tree decoration in St. Peter's Church, of Mt. Pleasant Charge. The new Christmas

Christ Church at Orrville, O., celebrated the Lord's Supper on Christmas morning, the attendance, both of the congregation and guests, was very large. Seven members were added to the congregation by letter. On Christmas evening the Sunday-school had their celebration. A large Christmas tree was the centre of attraction. The Christmas tree was the centre of attraction. The Church was appropriately decorated. The choir, school, and a cantata class, who rendered the "True Christmas," acquitted themselves in a very acceptable manner. Over four hundred presents were distributed to the members of the Sunday-school. The primary class, which has 76 little children on roll, was fully represented and sang with heart and mouth the praises of Him who loves the little ones. It was a blessed Christmas, both for the congregation and Sunday-school. judge from the happiness evinced by the speeches and the joyous expressions beaming from every face.

"The Christmas festivities at St. John's Church was handsomely festooned with greens, while on the left hand side of the altar stood a large, illuminated Christmas tree, fully set off with variegated banners. The Church was crowded to overflowing. The programme opened with an exercise on the birth of Christ, after which followed the Christmas carol, 'Gloria in Excelsis,' etc., the whole concluding with a distribution of presents, consisting of a box of choice French candies, and an orange. Dr. T. S. Johnston delivered a brief address, and a collection was lifted for the benefit of the Womelsdorf Orphans' Home."

Synod of the Potomac.

The post office address of Rev. R. B. Carnahan will be hereafter, Meyerhoffer's Store, Rockingham county, Va.

The Sunday School of Grace Mission, Washington, D. C., had a very enjoyable time on Christmas evening. The special Christmass ser-bened, and all present, parents, teachers, and brief were made glad by singing around the children were made glad by singing around their beautiful Christmas tree, receiving the children were made glad by singing around their beautiful Christmas tree, receiving the children were made glad by singing around their beautiful Christmas tree, receiving the children were made glad by singing around their beautiful Christmas tree, receiving the children were made glad by singing around their beautiful Christmas tree, receiving the children were made glad by singing around their beautiful Christmas tree, receiving the children, and aided the church as suppropriately decorated to the Church was appropriately decorated. The choir, school, and a cantata class, who rendered the "True Christmas," acquitted themselves in a very acceptable manner. Over four hundred presents were distributed to the members of the Sunday-school had their celebration. A large Christmas tree, receiving the Rev. J. Hasser also spoke to the children, and aided the Church was first

# SEMINARY NOTICE.

The session of the Theological Seminary, Lan-caster, will be re-opened on Thursday, A. M., January 4, 1883, at 10 o'clock, when the open-ing address will be delivered in the College

## APPOINMENT OF AGENT OF THE RE-FORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD.

Mr. Jacob Heyser of Chambersburg, Pa., has accepted the agency of the Board contemplated in the Plan of Life-Membership, subscriptions for The Messenger, and will enter on his duties at the opening of the new year. He is also authorized to solicit contributions for the use of the Board, and to recive subscriptions for the different periodicals of the Board and orders for the Book Department, and make collections of accounts due the Board, his receipt for the same being valid.

We hope Mr. Heyser will be received and welcomed by the Church, and meet with good success so as to put our publication interest on a good footing.

a good footing.

CHAS. G. FISHER,

Supt. Ref'd Ch. Pub. Board.

## OFFER OF PREMIUM FOR TRACT NO. 2.

The undersigned would hereby offer a Premium of Twenty Dollars in gold for the best Tract on "The Work of Missions in the Reformed Church in the United States." Tract must not exceed 1400 words in length.

The committee to whom manuscripts are to be sent and who shall decide as to the one meriting the Premium, consists of Revs. J. O. Miller, D. D., York, Pa.; Theodore Appel, D. D., Lancaster, Pa., W. H. H. Snyder, Elders W. H. Seibert and Rud. F. Kelker, Harrisburg, Pa.

Manuscripts must be signed by an assumed name and sent to any member of the Committee by January 25, 1883. The assumed name and the real name of the author to be sent to the undersigned. All manuscripts to be the property of the undersigned.

What is desired is a Tract that will, in a brief, practical, and instructive way, best present the subject for the information of the church, and the progress of the work that is before us as a Church.

CHARLES G. FISHER, 907 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

## SUNDAY-SCHOOL HELPS FOR 1883.

Now is the time to make up orders for Sunday-School Helps for the coming year. "The Guardian," for teachers; "The Quarterly," for scholars; "Lesson Papers," advanced and primary; "The Child's Treasury;" monthly and semi-monthly; and "Sunshine," are equal to any others of the kind, and at prices in keeping with their contents and appearance. The cheapest are not always the best. Specimen copies sent on application free of charge. We look for an increased demand for them all during the coming year. Pastors and superintendents will please give attention to this and see that their schools have their own Church Publications in use. Address

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Our Church Almanac for 1883 is now ready or distribution. The following is the schedule

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To which must be added 12 cents a dozen for postage, if sent by mail.

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We have endeavored to improve the appearance of the Almanac, and have it contain as usual an amount of matter that must prove interesting and instructive to every Church member. We have also added eight more pages—which gives more space to be filled with valuable reading matter. We have tried to make it truly a year book for the church. For this purpose we hope pastors and members will aid in its circulation, so that it may reach at least every family in the church. Send in your orders at once. Address,

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[WESTERN.]

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# Rev. CHARLES G. FISHER.

Superintendent and Treasurer.

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The publishers will not be responsible for notice given an agent or postmaster. When arrearages for more than a year are due, they we collected through a solicitor. The date appended to the subscriber's name on the pasted or each paper, indicates the day and year to nich he has paid. Renewals should be made, if possible, before the date anspires. If two issuesare allowed to be sent after that each and the control of the date of second the sent and the date of second the second that the bacriber will be charged for the six months comenced.

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# NOW IS THE TIME

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# Supplies for Sunday Schools.

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Also all orders for Miscellaneous Books at prices as low as offered by any house in the trade.

We respectfully solicit the patronage of the Church.

Reformed Church Pub. Board, 907 Arch Street, Philadelphia.

# Miscellaneous.

# A HYMN FOR THE CONQUERED.

I sing the hymn of the conquered, who fell in the battle of life-

Tfle hymn of the wounded, the beaten, who died overwhelmed in the strife;

Not the jubilant song of the victors, for whom the resounding acclaim.
Of nations was lifted in chorus, whose brows were

the chaplet of fame,—
But the hymn of the low and the numble, the

weary, the broken in heart, Who strove and who failed, acting bravely a sil-

ent and desperate part;

whose both bore no flower on its branches, whose hopes burned in ashes away.

From whose hand slipped the prize they had grasped at,—who stood at the dying of day, With the work of their life, all around them, un-

pitied, unheeded, alone, With death swooping down o'er their failure, and all but their faith overthrown,

While the voice of the world shouts its chorus, its

pean for those who have won—
While the trumpet is sounding triumphant, and
high to the breeze and the sun

Gay banners are waving, hands clapping, and hurrying feet Thronging after the laurel-crowned victors-I

stand on the field of defeat.

In the shadow, mongst those who are fallen and wounded and dying—and there Chant a requiem low, place my hand on their

pain-knotted brows, breathe a prayer, Hold the hand that is helpless, and whisper, "They only the victory win,
Who have fought the good fight and have van-

quished the demon that tempts us within;
Who have held to their faith unseduced by the

prize that the world holds on high;
Who have dared for a high cause to suffer, resist, fight—if need be, to die."

Speak, History, who are life's victors? Unroll thy long annals and say—

Are they those whom the world called the victors,

who won the success of a day?
The martyrs, or Nero? The Spartans who fell

at Thermopyle's tryst,
Or the Persians and Xerxes? His judges, or
Socrates? Pilate or Christ?

## DEPARTMENT OF HOME MISSIONS.

BY THE SUPERINTENDENT.

# Items.

From Rev. J. Dotterer, of Merwin, Westmore-land county, Pa., we received the following note, appended to a letter:

I will now report to you the result of the cornplanting scheme. On Sunday, the 12th of November, the savings of the Pine Run Reformed Sunday School were collected. The amount is fiften dollars and fifty cents for the missionaries. This we give in addition to our classical appointments for missions. The children and young persons, and a number of the older members also, like to save up in order to give something as a special gift. Receive the enclosed check for \$3.50 for seven subscribers to the Sentinel and Herald.

The scholars in St. Luke's Mission in Lancaster, pastor, Rev. W. F. Lichter, generally live in small houses, with small gardens or yards, and so but few of them had ground in which to plant corn. They were, however, supplied with small missionary boxes last spring, in which to deposit their savings or earnings for missions. On the occasion of the eighth anniversary of the school on the 19th of November, the boxes were brought to the church, and their contents counted. They amounted to \$17 and some cents. The treasurer also reported that the Sunday contributions of the scholars during the past year amounted to \$80, which was employed in paying the necessary expenses of the school. The anniversary was an interesting one; and the addresses by Elder B. F. Bausman, and, the Missionary Superintendent were listened to with interest and attention by a large andience. This Sunday-school is large and thriving, doing a good work in the suburbs of the city.

The mission at Winchester, Va., has been a long time under the care of the Board, and its pastors for a number of years past have been trying to bring it up to the point of being self-supporting. The present pastor, Rev. A. R. Kremer, thinks that some progress can be made in that direction by branching out and establishing preaching points in the surrounding country. Quite recently he obtained a lot of ground for a new house of worship, the gift of Mr. Stephenson, near the depot bearing his name, and arrangements are being made to have a new chapel under roof before winter. At present he preaches in a school house, which is always full of hearers. The Board approves of this course. The harvest services at Winchester were well attended, and the collection the largest in the recollection of the members.

# Japan.

The Rev. Ambrose D. Gring, missionary of the Reformed Church in Japan, has for some time past been holding drive services in Totio in the Japan, has for some time past been holding drive services in Totio in the Japan, has for some time past been holding drive services in Totio in the Japan, has for some time past been holding drive services in Totio in the Japan has for some time past been holding drive services in Totio in the Japan has for some time past been holding drive services in Totio in the Japan has for some time past been holding drive services in Totio in the Japan has for some time past been holding drive services in Totio in the Japan has for some time past been holding drive services in Totio in the Japan has for some time past the Japan has for some time past the past the Japan has for some time the past the Japan has for some time the services in Totio in the Japan has for some time past the Japan has for some time the Japan has for so

building, and such other facilities for its success-ful extension as it may require. For the time being, hard work, much patience and persever-ance will devolve on the missionary in the field, whilst the Church at home should in faith and prayer intercede with equal earnestness at the throne of heavenly grace for the success of his efforts.

# Selections.

The joy of the Lord is a Divine endowment for His service.

A good name is worth something to a Church well as to an individual,

They laid their offerings at His feet:
The gold was their tribute to a King,
The frankincense with its odor sweet,
Was for the Priest, the Paraclete,
The myrrh for the body's burying...

Keep in the light of the sun of righteous you would scatter sunshine around you.

Singing with grace in your hearts. This is the essential, primary condition of all choirs, and public singers in church, as well as our singing at home.—Aford.

There is time enough to do
Every day the daily duties
That your Father sendeth you,
And to find some little moments
For heart music fresh and new.

Get Christ for your portion, and you have all wisdom to direct, knowledge to teach, mercy to pity, love to care for, and comfort and power to protect and keep and save you.

The heart is not satisfied;
For more than the world can give it pleads;
It has infinite wants and infinite needs;
And its every beat is an awful cry
For love that never can change nor die.

In our imperfect state on earth, does Christian forgiveness of an injury necessarily imply forgetting it? As one earnestly desiring to forgive, because "much forgiven," and to show all kindness to those who have done me wrong. I am yet unable to think of the wrong itself without pain. God is said, in regard of sin and injuity, to "remember no more." Can we, His feeble children, when our hearts have been sorely wounded, go as far as this?

# Science and Art.

THE CHANNEL TUNNEL.—In spite of the recent opposition to the channel tunnel on the English side, the work seems to be pushed rapidly forward from the French end of it. In fact, according to English journals of November 25, unusual good progress had recently been made. Starting from Sandgate, the French company had bored to a distance of 467 yards, and was making a fair average daily advancement. In the early part of the work they experienced difficulty from the water they encountered while boring through the vault, but they had now got to the gray chalk, and the temporary dislocation had been overcome. Thus their greatest engineering difficulty was, therefore, now a thing of the past. At the English end the work is practically abandoned.

observations have been made by the Railway Commissioners of Ohio on the question of vibration of bridges. An iron bridge of 150 feet span will weigh about 1400 pounds per foot. In vibrating vertically, as by placing a heavy load upon it suddenly, the ends at abutment do not participate, while the middle is most active. To get an approximation as to distributed masses, suppose half the bridge length to vibrate equally, while the quarters near the abutments do not vibrate, then half the weight of the bridge will enter into account for vibration, or 105,000 pounds. Suppose a train moves rapidly on in which the drivers are out of balance. If the bridge vibrates the engine and train to abutment will vibrate with it, so that a portion of vibratory mass must be added. Taking the weight of the train at 2000 pounds. Per foot, the half-span, or 75 feet, weighs 150,000 pounds. The static deflection of the bridge for this train load is one inch, which is about half that found for such

inch, which is about half that found for such cases.

THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT.—The annual report of Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas L. Casey, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A. Engineer in charge of the Washington Monument, which was submitted to Congress, shows that at the close of the present session (December 1, 1882,) the height of the shaft was 340 feet above the level of the floor of the shaft, showing an increase in height during the year of 90 feet.

He says that if the marble can be obtained from this time forward with the same rapidity, as during the past s ason the walls and pyramidion or roof of the shaft can be completed possibly by July 1, 1884, and certainly by the close of the working season of 1884. Since the completion of the foundation in 1880 the total load added to the then existing structure has been 28,355 tons, and the settlement of the shaft due to this load has been on an average about 1½ inches for the structure.

The total pressure now borne by the "bed of foundation" is 74,871 tons, or about 92-100 of the total pressure to be finally placed upon it. The amount expended on the monument during the past year was \$177,849.60, leaving a balance available of \$33,417.37, which will supply and cut the marble to course 380 and the granite to course 390. An estimate of \$250,000 is submitted for continuing the work of the monument for the year ending June 30, 1884, which it is expected will complete the shaft and pyramidion, and also the interior staircase and elevator, during 1884. The report is accompanied by a letter from the Joint Commission recommending an appropriation by the present Congress of the amount estimated as necessary to complete the monument to its full height of 505 feet.

The Pennsylvania Central Musical Association will hold its tenth annual festival in the Musical College, Freeburg, Snyder county, Pa., commencing on Monday evening, January 15th, 1883, closing Friday night. Prof. F. C. Moyer in that place is reported as sustaining his reputation as musical director in the institution over which he presides. which he presides.

Ohio has a new Sunday law intended by its farmers to prevent absolutely all kinds of Sunday amusements, but it is found impossible, in Cincinnati, to get a conviction. The juries apparently disregard the law, and base the verdicts on their personal opinions. The Mayor says that he will make no further effort to close the theatres and saloons, and most of the ministers are convinced that he is justified in his course.

So much of the water of the Arkansas river So much of the water of the Afransas river is diverted into irrigating canals in the western part of Kansas that there is serious complaint at Hutchinson and other points in the east, where for some time past the stream has been practically dry, and many mills and other establishments have been seriously inconvenienced. It is proposed to place an injunction upon further irrigation projects, and a warm contest is anticipated.

anticipated.

The death of Thurlow Weed, at the age of 85, recalled these facts: That Clay reached the age of 75, Jackson 78, Calhoun 68, Webster 70, John Quincy Adams 81, Buchanan 78, Van Buren 81, Taylor 64, Cass 82, Marcy and Everett 71, Benton 76. Of the older generation of American statesmen, John Adams reached the age of 91, Jefferson 83 (both he and the elder Adams dying on the Fourth of July, 1826), Burr 81, Monroe 73, Jay 84, and Patrick Henry 63.

A Montreal man sent several barrels of Canadian apples to Queen Victoria, Gladstone, Lord Dufferin, and General Wolseley. He received letters of acceptance from all except the Queen, whose secretary wrote: "Her Majesty commands me to say that she fully appreciates your kindness in sending the apples, but it is a rule that favors of this nature shall not be accepted. However, on account of their perishable nature, the apples cannot be returned." What became of them was not explained.

of them was not explained.

The latest story about the Sweet Singer of the Sunflower is that he was recently accosted by a prominent French Catholic priest visiting this country, in these terms:—"Mr. Wilde, you have just been pointed out to me. I am glad to meet you. While I was abroad I read nothing so amusing as the accounts of how you were stuffing that nonsense of yours down the throats of these Americans, and making money out of it. Isn't it absurd?" The æsthete tried to get on his dignity, but was confronted by such an honest and jolly expression that he melted, said it was rather a good joke, you know, and invited the priest to breakfast.

Bry. Justin Edwards D. D., for seven years

was rather a good joke, you know, and invited the priest to breakfast.

Rev. Justin Edwards, D. D., for seven years the secretary of the American Temperance Society, gave the following cases in his fourth annual report in 1831: "In one case a father adopted the plan of using a little ardent spirit every day. He was never intoxicated, and never thought to be in the least intemperate. He only took a little are very little, because he thought it did him good. For the same reason his children took a little daily, and so did their children. And now no less than forty of his descendants are drunkards or in drunkards' graves. Another man adopted a different plan. He would not use ardent spirit; he would not purchase it, nor would he suffer it to enter his house. He taught his children to treat it as a poison, a mortal poison; and they so taught their children. And now there is not a drunkard among them, nor has one of his descendants ever come to a drunkard's grave."

# Personal.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton advises billiards for girls of the period.

M. Gambetta, the French statesman, was accidentally wounded lately by the discharge of a pistol in his own hands.

Mr. John G. Whittier has just celebrated his 75th birthday. The day was honored at Miss Rowe's School, in Boston, by the production of a little play or dialogue for seven girls, written especially for the occasion and introducing ingeniously the life of Whittier and his most characteristic poems.

General Butler is the first soldier of the late war elected Governor of Mass. and General Stoneman the first of the same chosen Governor of California. In Pennsylvania, Mr. Pattison is the first Governor since the war who was not a soldier; Geary, Hartrant and Hoyt all distinguished themselves in the field, in defence of the Union.

# Harm and Garden.

The number of cows in Massachusetts has increased 50,000 during the last forty years, while other cattle have decreased 60,000. By improved breeding the value of the cattle has increased from \$2,500,000 in 1840 to \$8,750,000 at the last valuation.

The necessity for concentration in cities points

place," where gambling is penal, has been just decided in the London High Court of Justice. It is such a place.

The Pennsylvania Central Musical Association will hold its tenth annual festival in the Musical College, Freeburg, Snyder county, Pa, commencing on Monday evening, January 15th, commencing on Monday evening of the Medical Association of poetry.

The Pennsylvania Central Musical Associatio

# Books and Periodicals.

THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW. Edited by Allen Thorndike Rice. Contents for January, 1883: The Revision of Creeds, part I, by Rev. Dr. Newman Smyth, Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott, and Rev. Henry. Ward Beecher; University Education for Women, by Prof. W. Le Conte Stevens; A Definition of Liberty, by Prof. Isaac L. Rice; American English, by Gilbert M. Tucker; The Responsibilities of Progressive Thinkers, by Dr. H. W. Thomas; Bigotry in the Medical Profession, by Dr. David Hunt; The Adulteration of Intelligence, by Charles T. Congdon. New York: No. 30 Lafayette Place. Price, single number, Fifty Cents; yearly subscription, Five Dollars.

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE. Contents for January, 1883: Colorado Springs, by George Re. Buckman; The Jewel in the Lotos, a story, chapters I-V (with frontispiece.), by Mary Agnes Tincker; A Cruise among the Windward Islands. The Log of the Vega, two papers (I.), by Caspar Wister; Rain, Kisses, Rain! From the Italian of De Amicis. By Frederick Townsend; Wee Joukydaidles, a story, by Lizzie W. Champney; Baby Charley, a poem, by Sidney Lanier; John Brown at Dutch Henry's Crossing, by Leverett W. Spring; Through the Storm, a story, by William F. Biddle; The Perfect Gift, by Carlotta Perry; Mr. Holman Lunt's Prize, a story, by Kate Upscn Clark; A Day in Tokio, by Charles Wood; Our Monthly Gossip; Literature of the Day.

J. B. Lippincott & Co., publishers, 715 and 717 Market street, Philadelphia.

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THE CONTINENT opens the first number of its third volume with an illustrated article on the group of earnest men and women who made Philadelphia an important station on the "Underground Railway" in the early anti-slavery days. Portraits of Dr. Furness, Isaac T. Hopper, Lewis Tappan, Lucretia Mott, J. Miller McKim, Mary Grew, and Anna Lewis, have been especially engraved to accompany the article, and will be highly valued by the many who cherish the memory of these departed champions of Freedom. The second illustrated paper is devoted to "Art in the Quaker City," with drawings by a number of artists who are represented in the present exhibition of the Philadelphia Society. A noteworthy pome, entitled "The Heart's Angel," is by Philip Bourke Marston, the blind English poet, who, as has recently been discovered, was the subject of Mrs. Mulock Craig's well-known lyric, "Philip, My King," The "Old Year" has an illustrated page, with a poem by Elizabeth W. Griswold, and 1883 is welcomed in a series of "songs without music," very cleverly written by H. C. Faulk ner, in which the months appear in character saluting Father Time. "Dust" and "Hot Plowshares," the serials now running, have each chapters of steadily culminating interest. While this is not professedly a holiday number, the week's Continent most appropriately ushers in the New Year and the new volume. Any other contemporary weekly publication would advertise such an issue as a sumptuous, holiday number, iu where the ordinary standard is so high a number like this is taken as a matter of course.

the ordinary standard is so high a number like this is taken as a matter of course.

Sr. Nicholas. Contents for January, 1883; His Lordship's Bed-time, drawn by E. H. Blashfield; How the Doctor was Paid, by Katharine R. McDowell; Santa Claus Must Have Made a Mistake, picture, drawn by Addie Ledyard; Fairy Wishes, Nowadays, illustrated, by S. A. Sheilds; January and June, verses, illustrated, by Margaret Johnson; The Story of the Field of the Cloth of Gold, part II, illustrated, by E. S. Brooks; "When Santa Claus was Young," picture, drawn by D. Clinton Peters; Hetty's Letter, illustrated, by Katharine Kameron; Elizabeth Butler, illustrated, by Alice Meynell; "Is n't it about time to get out of the way?" picture, drawn by Walter Bobbett; The Tinkham Brothers' Tide-Mill. chapters VII, VIII. IX, and X, illustrated, by J. T. Trowbridge; A Chinese New Year's Day in Santa Barbara, illustrated, by H. H.; "To-day my doll is one year old," Jingle; The Christmas Moon, poem, by S. H. S.; Snow-flake China, illustrated, by Mrs. Julia P. Ballard; The Jingling Rhyme of the Bold Rower, illustrated, by Emily S. Oakey; Mamma's Little Housemaid, picture, drawn by D. Clinton Peters; The Story of Viteau, chapters VI, VII, VIII, and IX, illustrated, by Frank R. Stockton; Dick, the Draughtsman, Jingle, by L. Hopkins; Work and Play for Young Folk, I, illustrated, by T. Restory of Stravery, verses, by Malcolm Douglas; Karsing, and the Tiger, a prize composition, by Hollis C. Clark; For Very Little Folk, illustrated, by Sarah J. Prichard; Jack-in-the-Pulpii, illustrated; "Oh, that Composition!" the Committee's Report. The Letter box, illustrated; The Agassiz Association; The Ridddle-box, illustrated.
Subscription Price, \$3.00 a Vera Single Number, 25 Cents. The Century Co., publishers, No. 33 East 17th St. (Union Square), New York, N. Y. The Centure Magazine.

38 East 17th St. (Union Square), New York, N. Y.

THE CENTURY MAGAZINE. Contents for January, 1883: Portrait of Charles Darwin, frontispiece; Hydraulic Mining in California, illustrated, by Tallesin Eväns; Ephemera, by Edith M. Thomas; The Christian League of Connecticut, III. (Begun in November) By Washington Gladden: The Planting of New England, illustrated, by Edward Eggleston; The Led-Horse Claim. III. (Begun in November) Blustrated, by Mary Hallods: Foote; Les Monte Von Vite, by H. C. Bunner; Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, by Frederic W. H. Myers; The Two Enchantments, by Henry Ames Blood; Who are the Creoles? illustrated, by George W. Cable; The Trip of the "Mark Twain," Illustrated; The Rudder Grangers in England, by Frank R. Stockton; A Woman's Reason, by Frances Hodgson Burnett; Desolation, by E. C. White; Farming for Feathers, illustrated, by E. B. Biggar; The Debt of Science to Darwin, illustrated, by Maria W. Jones; A Look into Hawthorne's Workshop. Being notes for a posthmous romance, by Nathaniel Hawthorne; Through One Administration, XV, by Frances Hodgson Burnett; A Mole, a Lamprey, and a Fairy, by John Burroughs; The Decline of Faith, by Paul Hamilton Hayne; Topics of the Time; Communications; Literature; Home and Society; The World's Work; Bric-a-Brac.

Terms: \$4.00 a year, in advance; 35 cents a number. The Century Co., publishers, No. 33 East 17th St. (Union Square), New York, N. Y.

Littella Living Age. Contents for December 28, 1889, Surveytine.

For fifty-two numbers of sixty-four large pages each, or more than 3,300 pages a year, the subscription price (\$8) is low; while for \$10.50 the publishers offer to send any one of the American \$4 monthlies or weeklies with the Living Age for a year, both postpaid. Littell & Co., Boston, are the publishers.

Vick's Floral Guide for 1883 is beautifully il-lustrated. It contains a full list of choice flowers, and will be a vast help to those who wish to culti-vate them.

# Married.

On the 21st of December, 1882, at the residence of Henry Stein by the Rev. J. W. Pontius, Mr. James S. Harvey to Miss Mariette Stein, both of East Fairfield, Crawford county, Pa.

In Carlisle, Pa., Dec. 27th, 1882, at the residence of the bride's mother, by Rev. A. H. Kremer, D. D., Mr. Charles C. Stauffer, A. M., Principal of the High School, in Williamsport, Pa., to Miss Kate G., daughter of the late John P. Hassler, Esq., of Carlisle.

Dec. 21st, 1882, at the residence of the bride's mother, by Rev. S. H. Eisenberg, Mr. Alexander Brown to Miss Jennie E. Robb, both of Latrobe,

Dec. 27th, 1882, by the same, in Christ Reformed Church, Latrobe, Pa., Mr. S. C. Heacox, of Hastings, Neb., to Miss Emma Gross, of Latrobe, Pa.

On Christmas day, at the home of the bride's parents, by Rev. J. Dotterer, Mr. Jacob F. Forbes to Miss Leanna D. Lauffer, both of Apol-lo, Pa.

By Rev. Geo. H. Johnston, Dec. 24th, 1882, in Phila., John D. Brown to Miss Mary J. Deitrich, both of Lebanon, Pa.

Dec. 25th, 1882, by the same, in Phila., Daniel Bushong to Miss Clara A. Schlater, both of

At the residence of Mr. James Whitesell, Dec. 21, 1882, by the Rev. A. A. Beach, Saml. R. Thompson, of Shearer's Cross Roads, Pa., to Anna Belle Whitesell, of Helena, Pa.

# Obituaries.

DIED.—In Waynesboro, Pa., Dec. 19th, 1882, of typhoid fever, Bro. Alfred T. Grove, aged 25 years and 8 months.

DIED.—Near Salem, Dec. 18, 1882, Mrs. Catharine Stiffey, aged about 86 years.

DIED.—Near Salem, Dec. 18, 1882, Mrs. Catharine Stiffey, aged about 86 years.

DIED.—In Woodcock township, Crawford Co., Pa., on the 14th of Dec., Mrs. Mary Burkhalter, in the 70th year of her age.

Mrs. Burkhalter's maiden name was Marks. She was born in South White Hall, Lehigh Co., Pa., was baptized and confirmed by the Rev. John Gobrecht. Had she lived yet six months, she would have reached the 50th year of her wedded life with her husband, David Burkhalter. She was in somewhat delicate health during the summer, but was always cheerful and uncomplaining, and attended to her duties in the family, and, whenever she could, at the public worship of the sanctuary. She was the mother of eleven children, nine of whom survive her. She was a worthy member of the congregation at Saegertown, where her loss will be severely felt, as well as in the family who now mourns her departure. Thus passes away, one after another, of the old pioneers of Northwestern Pennsylvania, who, in their younger days, worshipped at other altars in their younger days, worshipped at other altars in the younger days, worshipped at other altars in the ranger of the sand wids of the West. It will be a comfort to the many friends and kindred in the old home to learn that this mother in Israel, while diligent in the affairs of this life, did not forget her covenant vows, made in her early life, and that she departed this life, leaving to them, as well as to the bereaved family, the legacy of a well-spent Christian life, and that she now rests with the Master to whom she gave herself in her youth, and whom she served unto the end.

DIED.—On the 28th ultimo, at Schaefferstown, Rawmond E. son of John M. and Ella K. (Ely)

DIED.—On the 28th ultimo, at Schaefferstown, Raymond E., son of John M. and Ella K. (Ely) Krall, aged 6 years, 1 month and 2 days.

DIED.—On the 11th instant, at Newmanstown, Samuel Sheetz, aged 78 years, 11 months and 18 days.

Samuel Sheetz, aged 78 years, 11 months and 18 days.

DIED.—In Chambersburg, Pa., on the 9th inst., Daniel S. Fahnestock, in the 64th year of his age. The subject of the above notice was one of the most highly esteemed citizens of Chambersburg. During the last twenty years of his life he filled several important positions of public trust. He was for about ten years treasurer of the Directors of the Poor of Franklin county, and for an equal number of years he was the treasurer of the borough of Chambersburg. In both positions he proved himself a faithful and efficient officer. All who knew him speak of him in terms of praise as an upright man in business, an obliging neighbor, a kind husband and father, and an exemplary Christian. He was from his youth up a devoted and faithful member of Zion's Reformed Church. For a number of years he was in the eldership of the church, and magnified his office by a consistent walk and conversation. His sickness was diabetes, and of about nine months' duration. During his long suffering he enjoyed the constant and tender care of a devoted wife and children, was ever patient and resigned to the will of God, was strong and steadfast in his faith, and died in the hope of a blessed immortality. We therefore "sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him."

# Acknowledgments.

New Castle Mission.

A handsome communion set from Zion's Reformed Church, Chambersburg, Pa.; 57 volumes of books (2nd-hand) from the Sunday-school of the Evangelical Reformed Church, Frederick City, Md. Our sincere thanks.

J. M. SOUDER, Pastor.

# Bethany Orphans' Home.

Received from Moses Hess, per C. G. F., \$2.50. Wm. H. Seibert, Treasurer.

# Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf.

Bullding Fund.

By Mr. Chas. Santee, collection at the Union
Services on Thanksgiving day, in Christ Reformed Church, Philadelphia, \$29.36; Rev. F. W.
Berleman, Thanksgiving collection in Salem Church, Philadelphia, 20.00; Mr. Joseph Young, Allentown, Pa., 100.00. WM. D. Gross, Treas.

Box 2147, Philadelphia.

# Religious Intelligence.

No-License meetings are being held in the churches of Boston, Mass.

Only two of the forty-two Methodist Episcopal churches of Baltimore have rented pews—the others are free.

Rev. Henry Baker has resigned the pas-torate of the First Lutheran church, Al-toona, Pa., on account of ill health. He has been pastor for twenty-five years.

Indiana has thirty-six Congregational churches, only one with a settled pastor, and twenty-nine with acting pastors. The membership is 1,944, of whom 1,311 are females. 259 persons were added during the past year. the past year.

In the Episcopal church, Alabama, there are presbyters, 21; deacons, 5; deaconesses, 7; candidates for Holy Orders, 4; layreaders, 22; communicants, 3,836; Sunday-school teachers, 257; Sunday-school scholars, 1,910; total, 2,167.

The German Lutheran Almanac for 1883 gives the following statistics: Ministers, 3,429; congregations, 6,130; communicants, 785,787. During the past year the net increase was 130 ministers, 265 congregations, and 47,485 communicants.

Christ church, Cambridge, Pa., which was burned on Thanksgiving Day, was erected in 1670, and rebuilt in 1794, the last indebtedness having been removed about a year ago. A movement will be made at once to raise funds for rebuilding the edifice, which was insured for only \$3,000.

Some of Georgia's negro Baptists, headed by Rev. George R. Jackson, are laying plans for a new denomination, which have "Baptist principles and the Methodist system," and bear the rather ponderous name of "The African Baptist Methodist Episcopal Church." Brother Jackson says independence doesn't work well among black Baptists, however smoothly it may operate among the whites; for they need bishops and presiding elders to keep them from fighting.

The following topics have been suggested by the Evangelical Alliance for the Week of Prayer:—January 7-14, 1883.—Sunday, Jan. 7.—Sermons—"The man Christ Jesus; who gave Himself a ransom for all." Monday, Jan. 8.—Praise and Thanksgiving. Tuesday, Jan. 9.—Humiliation and Confession. Wednesday, Jan. 10.—Prayer for Families. Thursday, Jan. 11.—Prayer for the Church Universal. Friday, Jan. 12.—Prayer for the Nations. Saturday, Jan. 13.—Prayer for Missions. Sunday, Jan. 14.—Sermons.

At the seventy-eighth session of the Old Testament Revisers, held in the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster, the company finished the second revision of Job and proceeded with that of Proverbs to chap. xvi., 18.

The Salvation Army claims to reach 34,000 persons in London every Sunday evening. It is about to dispatch twenty-one officers to Cape Colony, New Zealand, Sweden, and the United States, and to add eighty officers to its home force, which now numbers 1,019 numbers 1.019.

The Committee of the Evangelical Alliance had decided that a universal conference should be held at Stockholm in September, 1883; but, as the delegate who has visited Sweden (Mr. Arnold) having found obstacles arising out of disagreements between the national Lutheran Church and the congregations separated from it, it seems doubtful whether the proposal of the committee will be carried out.

The thirteenth General Assembly of the Free Italian Church met at Florence recently. Thirty-four deputies representing thirty churches were present. Reports received from the churches at Fava, Venice, Bari, Rivoli, Genoa, Spezia, Belluna and Florence show that they are progressing favorably. An Evangelization Committee, numbering five, was appointed. The Assembly decided to meet but once in three years, to avoid all unnecessary outlay; and the churches promised to double their contributions to the Sustentation Fund. The thirteenth General Assembly of the

The Germania published at Berlin under date of Dec. 22d, states that the bases of the understanding between Russia and the Vatican are as follows: The re-establishment of the Russian Embassy at the Vatican; amnesty to the Polish bishops; the reinstatement of the Archbishop of Warsaw; new bishops to be appointed after an understanding between Russia and the Vatican; appointments to important livings in Russia to be submitted to the Russian Government; the States of Russia to exercise a certain right of supervision over seminaries; the Uniates to have liberty to return to the Catholic Church.

Church order, according to the usages of American Baptists, does not seem to trouble Mr. Spurgeon. He is now at Mentone, and a correspondent of The Freeman writes of a Lord's day there: "In the afternoon, in accordance with Mr. Spurgeon's regular practice when away from home, we observed the ordinance of the Lord's Supper in his sitting-room. Five ministers and six other believers completed the assembly; but as of old the risen Redeemer came to the disciples who had met in Jerusal and the state of the stat salem on the first day of the week, so did He appear in our midst, and we enjoyed sweet fellowship with the Father, and with one another, through Him."

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# General News.

## Home.

Governor Cleveland of New York, was inaugarated on the 1st inst., in the State Capitol in Albany.

The Pendleton Civil Service Reform bill passed the Senate by a vote of 39 to 6. The Edmund bill, prohibiting the political assessment of government employees, has also been passed.

William Baldwin, Chief Commissioner of high-ways, and candidate for re-election to that posi-tion, died suddenly on New Year's morning, in Ridgway's cigar store, 35 South Sixth street. He died of heart disease said to have been agga-wated by the excitement attendant upon the elec-tion about to take place.

The New Year's reception at the White House was suddenly brought to a close by the death of Hon. Elisha H. Allen, Hawaiian minister at Washington and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps. He died in an ante-room of the Executive Mansion soon after paying his respects to the President.

Rev. Silian Bonhomme, a Presbyterian clergyman and the Secretary of the Seamen's Friend's Society, died on Saturday, in the 83d year of his age. He was born in France, and came to this country in 1832, settling in New York, when he was shortly afterwards engaged as agent of the Society for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Jews.

An earthquake, lasting about 30 seconds, which shook many buildings, was felt in Halifax, Nova Scotia, on Saturday night, shortly before 12 o'clock. A shock of earthquake was felt at Rockland, Maine, the same night, at about 10 o'clock, and two hours later there followed "a tempest of thunder and lightening."

# Foreign.

Emperor Francis Joseph has offered to act as mediator between King Humbert of Italy and the Pope.—The Spanish consul at Inez, reports that 21 Pilgrims have died between Mecca and Medina of cholera. There are 20 deaths daily from the disease at the later place.—The Czar has instructed his Ambassadors abroad to report to him personally their respective views on the political situation in Europe.

Thirty-six person were killed and fifty injured by the falling of a tall chimney in Bradford, England, on the 28th ult. Great floods are reported in Germany. The Rhine and all tributaries have overflown their banks, bridges have been swept away and the country flooded. The soldiers and firement along the Nekar have been called out to assist the recording time.

the population.

The persecution of the Jews has begun again

The British Parliament has been summoned to meet February 15th.

to meet February 15th.

Paris, Jan. 1.—M. Gambetta died at his residence, at Ville d'Avray, at midnight. The death agony lasted two hours. M. Spuller, M. Etienne and Dr. Flenzal were present at the last moment. The physicians who attended M. Gambetta state that his death was due to pyæmia, caused by suppressed erysipelas. A clot of blood in the heart suffocated the deceased. A plaster cast of the face was taken this morning. There will be an autopsy to-morrow.

row.

M. Gambetta died in a state of unconscious-ness, but in the course of the afternoon he ex-claimed: "I am lost! It is useless to disguise it; but I have suffered so much, that it will be a

release."

The cause of his death was the accidental wound he received from a pistol shot not long ago. He was an able man and an ardent republican. The German papers think his death will help the European powers to tranquility.

The funeral of M. Gambetta will be conducted with purely civil rites. The family are anxious that the burial take place at Nic, but friends advise that it be at Paris.

In consequence of the high functions the deceased has filled the authorities have thought it expedient to place seals on his papers.

# PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.

# Wholesale Prices.

MONDAY, January 1, 1883.

Wholesale Prices.

Wholesale Prices.

Wholesale Prices.

OOTTON.—Quotations were 10 & for middling ruplands; 10 \text{if. for for middling, and 9 \text{if. for good ordinary. Receipts for the day—Gross, 120 bales in et, 1224 bales, and for the week—Gross, 4873 bales; net, 3906 bales. Exports to Great Britain for the week, 500 bales.

FLOUR.—We quote supers at \$2.75\(\text{if. for for far for fire the week, 500 bales.}

FLOUR.—We quote supers at \$2.75\(\text{if. for far for fire fire far for fire fire for far for for far for for far far for for far for for far for for far far for for far far for for far far for for far for for far far for for far far for for far for for far far for for far for for far far for for far far for for far far for for far far for for far for far far for for far for for far for for far for for far for far for for far for

SUGARS.—Muscovadoes were nominal at 6 15-16@7 1-16c. for fair to good refining. Sales of 275 hogsheads Demerara centrifugals at 7 1-16 for 95-test. Refined were quiet and steady at 8\frac{3}{2}c. for granulated; 8\frac{1}{2}c. for crystal A; 8\frac{3}{2}c. for confec-tioners' A, and 8\frac{1}{2}c. for standard A.

# Thanksgiving

# hristmas.

Twenty business days intervene between these two holidays, and we propose to make them, if possible, the greatest days of all the year for Oak Hall sales. We are thoroughly prepared with Overcoats and Suits for Men of all sizes and Boys of all ages. All that remains is for the people that trade in Philadelphia to believe what we say and come for

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# One Million Dollars.

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A special bargain now on our counters is our

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Provisions.—We quote Mess Pork at \$18.76
(@19; dry salt shoulders, \$1/@8c; do. smoked, 9;
(@91/c; pickled shoulders, \$1/@8fc; do. smoked, 10c.; pickled bellies, 111/c; smoked do. 12@121/c.
Loose butchers' Lard, 10/c; prime steam do., \$10.75@10.87; city kettle do., 111/@111/c; Dried
Beef, 12/@14c; beef hams, \$18/@19; sweet-pickled hams, fresh packed, 101/@111/c; do. fully cured, 111/@12c; do smoked, 13/@14c. Extra India
Mess Beef, \$27; City Family do., \$16; packet do.
\$15. Lard stearine, 111/@111/c; Oleo do., 9c. City
Tallow, in hhds., 74c.

Drissed Poultry.—We quote dressed Chickens at 10/@13c., as to quality; do. Ducks at 13/@
15c.; do Geese at 12@14c, as to quality, and Turkeys, prime dry-picked, at 17c.; some fancy lots, 18c.; good do., 15@16c; poor, 12@14c., and scalded, 12@15c., as to quality.

Butter.—We quote Pennsylvania creamery fancy at 42/@45c; Western do. do. 42c.; do. firsts, 33/@36c; Bradford county fresh tubs, 35/@36c; do. fiste, 33/@36c; New York State extras, 33/@34c; Western dairy extras nominally 30/@32c; few, if any, here. Rolls, choice, 27/@28c.; do. do. fair to good, 22/@26c; medium and common shipping grades, 13/@16c. Prints, fancy, 42/@45c; do. firsts, 35/@40c; do. seconds, 30/@35c.

Cheese.—We quote New York full cream choice at 13/@18c. ohio first, 85/@40c; do. seconds, 30/@35c.

Cheese.—We quote New York full cream choice at 13/@18c.; ohio fair, 61/93/c; ennsylvania part skims, 71/@9c., chiefly at 8/@
21/9c. do. skims, choice, 51/961/c; do. rejected, 20/dc.

8]c.; do. skims, choice, 5½@6½c.; do. rejected, 2@4c.
EGGS.—Sales of Western extras on 'Change at 28½c., quoted on the open market at 28½@29c. for best lots and 26@27c. for ordinary. Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware fresh were dull at 30½@31c.; ice-house stock was dull at 21@23c., as to condition; limed, 20@21c., as to brand. Petroleum.—The market for export was firmer but quiet, closing at 7½%7½c., as to test for refined in barrels, and 9½@10c. as to brand for cases.

HAY AND STRAW.—We quote prime Timothy at \$16, some fancy cars higher; No. 1 do., \$15, and No. 2 do. at \$14. Bye Straw was steady at \$12.50 with wood, and \$13.50 without wood.
SEEDS.—Clover was quiet fand steady at 10@10½c. \$1 bfor fair to choice. Timothy was dull at \$1.70@1.99 per bushel. Flax was firmer; \$1.30 would have been paid by crushers for pure.
FEED.—The market was dull and weak, with sales of 1 car prime winter wheat Bran on track at \$17.

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